

## nd rejects ritain's ns to end od war

ly rejected Britain's latest pro-  
the cod war, but said it was  
a short-term agreement. Mr  
Foreign Secretary, gave a warn-  
Navy would return to the  
if Icelandic harassment of the  
continued.

## han warning on avy protection

repeatedly to Britain's  
constructive, restrained and  
conciliatory behaviour, said that  
the Icelandic delegation had  
not made a single proposal at  
last week's talks. He insisted  
that the British had throughout  
recognised the need to con-  
serve stocks, Iceland's depen-  
dence on fishing, and that  
country's prior claim to fish in  
Icelandic waters.

The Foreign Secretary, who  
will make a statement in the  
Commons today on how he pro-  
poses to handle the immediate  
position, suspected that the  
offer of a short-term agree-  
ment probably referred to a  
period of three to six months.

He would have preferred an  
agreement which expired in  
December, 1977, at the same  
time as Iceland's recent settle-  
ment with West Germany. Mr  
Callaghan also pointed out that  
the agreement with Germany  
would lapse if Iceland did not  
reach a settlement with Britain,  
as would the implementation of  
the protocol on tariff cuts in  
Iceland's free-trade agreement  
with the EEC.

Referring to the possibility of  
the United Nations Law of the  
Sea Conference giving its bless-  
ing to 200-mile limits of the sort  
declared unilaterally by Iceland  
last July, Mr Callaghan thought  
it might happen later than  
some people expected.

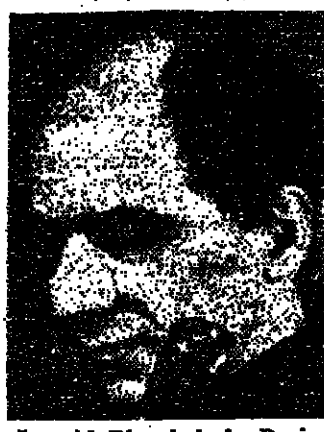
On the positive side, he said  
that any agreement on self-  
restraint could reduce the  
British catch in the disputed  
area by 20 per cent.

Mr Peart, the Minister of  
Agriculture, Fisheries and Food,  
passed Mr Callaghan's state-  
ments on to the trawlermen last  
night.

In a direct radio broadcast to  
the skippers (the first of its  
type), he said that by Wednes-  
day the Icelandic Government  
would have had time to digest  
what the Foreign Secretary had  
said.

"I ask you to keep cool until  
tomorrow night," he said. "If  
you must, if challenged, I  
thereafter fish in the usual  
way in the designated fishing  
area in these international  
waters in which you have every  
right to fish. You know that  
if a war is then cut, naval  
protection will be restored auto-  
matically."

British frigates are at present  
outside the 200-mile limit, but  
could be with the trawlers very  
quickly.



Leonid Plyushch in Paris.

## Hospital hell described by dissident

From Charles Hargrove

Paris, Feb 3  
Mr Leonid Plyushch, the dis-  
sident mathematician who was  
allowed to leave the Soviet  
Union last month, gave a blood-  
curdling account today of con-  
ditions in the mental hospital  
where he was incarcerated for three  
years and subjected to drug  
"treatment".

He told a press conference in  
Paris that most of the inmates  
were mentally deranged murder-  
ers, rapists or homicides. But  
there were also about 60 political  
prisoners who in general  
were mentally normal.

He arrived at the Dnepropetrovsk  
special mental hospital with a  
group of thieves, who had  
been feigned illness in order to  
have a rest and a good feed.

"On the second day they all  
admitted they were quite  
healthy. They had been horri-  
fied by what they had seen,"  
he said. "The male nurses are  
criminals serving out their sen-  
tences. They demand food,  
clothes, from the patients. In  
return they allow you an extra  
visit to the toilet, or increase  
your ration of tobacco. If you  
refused to give them anything,  
they beat you up."

Sometimes the beatings were  
so violent that the patient died.  
When patients "misbehaved",  
by asking for leave to go to the  
toilet outside prescribed hours,  
they were given injections of  
sulphur, which made them mad  
with pain. Many screamed for  
24 hours.

"The patients explained to  
the political prisoners that they  
should never complain. If one  
did, one was given a reinforced  
treatment of depressants, injec-  
tions of sulphur, or prevention  
of going to the toilet. The  
object of this "treatment", as  
he had seen in his case, was to  
break a person morally from the  
start in the first days."

Continued on page 7, col 1

## Iran threatens to cancel some British export contracts

By Roger Vielvoye  
Energy Correspondent

Iran has warned Britain that  
it may not be able to honour  
all contracts for industrial  
equipment unless the Govern-  
ment of international oil  
companies, led by British  
Petroleum, increases the amount  
of oil it buys from Iran.

Iran is one of the fastest ex-  
panding markets for British  
goods. In 1974 it bought British  
goods worth £278m but last  
year this figure had risen to  
£495m and is now Britain's  
eighth largest export market  
outside Europe.

The warning on contracts—  
given to the British Govern-  
ment through diplomatic chan-  
nels—follows the non-appear-  
ance of a \$400m (about £200m)

Iranian loan due to the National  
Water Council.

So far the threat has been in  
general terms and no specific  
contracts have been singled out  
as in danger. There are also  
reports that Iran is now slow  
in paying for the goods it buys  
from Britain. Mr Mervin,  
thought to be due to a cash flow  
shortage rather than further  
attempts to put pressure on the  
oil companies.

Iran has been particularly  
hard hit by the sharp fall in  
oil purchases by the inter-  
national oil consortium over the  
past 12 months. Its ambitious  
development plans were based  
on ever expanding oil revenues,  
but instead output fell last year  
by an average of 600,000 barrels  
of oil a day, currently worth  
more than \$6.8m. Over a full  
year it is thought that Iranian

oil revenues were \$2,000m less  
than expected.

The long-run to which the  
Iranians are prepared to go to  
force an increase in oil lifting  
is a good indication of the seri-  
ousness of the country's cash  
shortage. However, the failure  
of the Iranians to deliver the  
\$400m loan to the water author-  
ity is not seen as an inability  
to pay but another lever being  
put on the British Government  
to influence their oil consor-  
tium policy through BP.

Iran, however, has until the  
end of the month to deliver the  
\$400m. Combined with the  
threat to an expanding export  
market, the situation is de-  
scribed in government circles  
as both "delicate and serious".  
Pressure of this sort places the  
Government in a dilemma since

officially it cannot interfere in  
the commercial operations of  
BP, the largest shareholder in  
the consortium.

Assurances that the Govern-  
ment cannot influence BP's  
policy, even though the Govern-  
ment and the Bank of England  
hold 70 per cent of the shares,  
are not readily accepted in  
Iran, where the state-owned  
National Iranian Oil Company is  
directly accountable to the  
administration.

An approach to the British  
Government came after direct  
appeals to the oil companies to  
step up production had failed.  
Initially, the Shell had top level  
talks with oil company chiefs  
and now the consortium is in-  
volved in negotiations over a  
reduction in prices.

The consortium, which in-  
cludes BP, Shell, Exxon,

Texasco, Mobil, Gulf, Chevron  
and the French company, CFP,  
claims that Iranian oils are  
overpriced compared with  
similar quality crudes from  
other parts of the Gulf. Under  
the 1973 sales agreement, the  
oil companies were assured of  
a profit margin of 22 cents a  
barrel, but because of recent  
price adjustments margins on  
Iranian purchases are less than  
this figure.

At this reduced level the  
companies said they could not  
afford to make the 40 per cent  
contribution to new investment  
in the Iranian oil industry  
under the terms of the 1973  
sales agreement. The Iranians  
argue they have tried to help  
the oil companies during a  
difficult period but have seen  
no increase in oil liftings in  
return.

## Angola mercenaries questioned by police

By Staff Reporters

The police detained 100  
British mercenaries bound for  
the war in Angola at a police  
station in London, last night,  
and took them to police  
stations for questioning. They  
told them that they had been  
stopped so that a search could  
be made for firearms. A news-  
paper had passed on informa-  
tion that arms were to be  
issued at the station.

No arms were found, how-  
ever, and all the men were  
allowed to leave.

The men had been told  
originally they would leave last  
Sunday, but this was called off.  
Yesterday they were told at a  
few hours' notice to assemble  
at the station. Coaches were  
waiting for them with signs  
reading "George's Club".

The men were recruited by  
Security Advisory Services of  
Cambridge, Surrey.

The firm has recruited nearly  
120 men in the past fortnight  
and sent them out to help the  
Western forces in the war in  
Angola. The firm has said that  
the money for the operation—  
the men have been offered £150  
a week—has come from the  
Zaire Government and American  
sources.

Last night the volunteers,  
ranging in age from 20 to 40,  
were taken to the station and  
climbed on board the coaches.

As the last coach, with 22  
men on board, began to pull  
out of the station a police car  
in front of it. A policeman  
climbed into the coach and told  
the passengers: "I think you  
gentlemen had better come with  
us."

Detectives who had been  
waiting in unmarked cars moved  
in on the coaches which were  
driven to the police stations.  
Before the police moved in,  
one of the volunteers, Mr Leslie  
Mark, said he had joined the  
mercenary force because he was  
unemployed. Surrounded by his  
family and parents, who came to  
see him off, Mr Mark, from  
Shoreditch, East London, said  
he had three years' service in  
the 1st Battalion of The Royal  
Green Jackets.

"I have been out of work  
since last April," he said. He  
was not worried by the risks  
of taking part in the war.

Nicholas Ashford writes from  
Luanda: A spokesman for the  
Popular Movement (MPLA) said  
today that there was a big  
saying on Monday that the  
Zaire Government had agreed to  
send a column which consisted  
entirely of mercenaries.

The mercenaries had suffered  
heavy casualties, he said.

The statement was made be-  
fore an announcement from  
Kinshasa today that mercen-  
aries would no longer be  
allowed to pass through Zaire  
on their way to Angola.

Three men from an Indepen-  
dent Television News team, Mr  
Keith Hatfield, Mr Paul Car-  
leton and Mr Robert Hammond,  
were detained yesterday while  
filming the arrival of Cuban  
soldiers and military equipment  
at Luanda port.

After being to the station, they  
were put under house arrest at their  
hotel and are due to be  
deported today.

Photograph, page 7

## 'Ferrybridge six' win a doubtful victory

By Paul Routledge

The legal standing of trade  
union "closed shop" agree-  
ments was thrown into con-  
fusion yesterday by the judgment  
of an industrial tribunal that  
the dismissal of a worker for  
not belonging to a recognized  
union was unfair.

The legality of many closed  
shop arrangements modelled on  
an agreement in the electricity  
supply industry is now almost  
certain to be challenged. A  
Leeds tribunal ruled that six  
workers employed at Ferry-  
bridge power station, in West  
Yorkshire, ought not to have  
been dismissed. There would be  
another hearing to assess com-  
pensation if any of the men  
applied, the tribunal said.

The Electricity Council and  
the four recognized unions in  
the power supply industry may  
appeal against the tribunal  
finding to the newly established  
Employment Appeals Tribunal,  
a TUC-nominated body to be  
chaired by Mr Justice Phillips.  
It was set up under the Em-  
ployment Protection Act but is  
not yet in operation.

Compensation terms will be  
discussed by the men's lawyers,  
and the industrial relations  
department of the judgment  
will be talked over by the  
unions and the Department of  
Employment.

The tribunal found that the  
men, all members of the break-  
away organization, the Elec-  
tricity Supply Union (ESU),  
had been unfairly dismissed  
because neither the recognized  
unions nor the Central Elec-  
tricity Generating Board had  
unilaterally implemented the  
closed shop agreement, first  
introduced in 1965.

"It has proved impossible for  
the board to show that it is  
likely that the practice of uni-  
versal membership of one of the  
designated unions exists. Such  
being the case, the tribunal said,  
were unfair dismissals for the  
men's lack of membership during  
his five years of office."

Then, using the new proce-  
dure, Mr Lloyd put the question  
that Mr Thomas should be  
elected Speaker. After the un-  
animous agreement of the House  
Mr Lloyd thanked Mr Thomas  
for his success and welcomed  
the new Speaker and welcomed  
the traditional reluctance, was  
dragged to the Chair by his  
proposer and second, Mr  
George Strauss, Father of the  
House, and Sir Derek Walker-  
Smith, QC.

The day began with tributes  
to the retiring Speaker, Mr  
Selwyn Lloyd, from Mr Wilson,  
Mrs Thatcher, Mr Thorpe and  
from the leaders of all the other  
minority parties. In a voice at  
times trembling with emotion,  
Mr Lloyd thanked Mr Thomas  
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Parliamentary report, page 6

## Triumphal occasion for Welsh MPs as the Commons elects its 153rd Speaker

By Hugh Noyes  
Parliamentary Correspondent

It was understandably a  
triumphal occasion for the  
Welsh yesterday as Mr George  
Thomas, MP for Cardiff, West,  
for the past 25 years, was  
elected Speaker of the House of  
Commons.

The rules of order were  
broken on all sides as MPs vied  
to display their fluency, or lack  
of it, in the Welsh tongue.

But Mr Wilson let a cat out  
of the bag when he revealed that  
it was not until Mr Thomas,  
as Secretary of State for Wales,  
had to preside at the investiture  
of the Prince of Wales at Caer-  
marfon in 1969 that he got

around to mastering the lan-  
guage himself.

As the grand words of his  
colleagues flowed about him,  
Mr Thomas remarked modestly  
that his Welshness made him  
tolerant of their exaggerations.

He pointed out that the only  
other occasion on which the  
Commons had elected a Welsh  
constituency member as its  
Speaker was in 1685, when John  
Trevor, MP for Denbigh, was  
elected to the Chair. That unfor-  
tunate man suffered a squint in  
both eyes, Mr Thomas said,  
which led to considerable con-  
fusion when calling MPs to  
speak. He assured the House  
that he suffered from no similar  
handicap.

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Parliamentary report, page 6

## Ruling on Scots party ends Labour majority

The Government's majority

of one in the Commons and its  
majority on the Commons com-  
mittees considering Bills, dis-  
appeared yesterday. The  
Labour Party in Scotland ruled  
that no members of the new  
Independent Scottish Labour  
Party could be permitted dual  
membership within the British  
Labour Party.

Mr James McGrandie, re-  
cently appointed organizer of  
the Labour Party in Scotland,  
announced in Glasgow the  
exclusion of Mr James Sillars,  
MP for Argyshire, South, and  
Mr John Robertson, MP for  
Paisley, along with all other  
Labour Party members who  
had joined the SLP.

He added that the position  
of the two MPs at Westminster  
was a question for Mr Melish,  
the Government Chief Whip,  
and the Parliamentary Labour  
Party.

Mr Sillars said that he and  
Mr Robertson would continue  
to take the Labour whip unless  
Mr Melish ruled otherwise.

"Until Robert Melish tells us  
that we are no longer members  
of the Parliamentary Labour  
Party we will do nothing to  
imperial his majority on com-  
mittees," Mr Sillars said (the  
Press Association reports).

Mr McGrandie has forced a  
decision that the Government's  
party managers at Westminster  
have been trying to postpone.  
There are very few issues on  
which either of the two rebel  
MPs, who want more devolu-  
tion for Scotland, would fail to  
obey the Labour whip. But if  
the Scottish Labour Party  
excludes them, Mr Melish can  
scarcely continue to deliver the  
party whip to them, in accor-  
dance with the party constitution.

That will not make the Gov-  
ernment more vulnerable in  
Commons divisions on the floor  
of the House. It can almost

depend on enough mem-  
bers of the minority parties  
voting against the Conservative  
Opposition. But in constituencies  
upstairs the case is different.  
If the parliamentary party is in  
minority in the Commons it  
has no right to a majority on  
committees taking Bills.

That opens up two or three  
possibilities. Clauses of govern-  
ment Bills will be lost or  
amended in the committees as  
the Conservative attack intensi-  
fies this session; Bills will be  
kept longer in the committee  
stage, holding back other legis-  
lation; and if the original word-  
back into Bills more time  
will be taken up on the floor of  
the Commons.

Over a long period, without  
a built-in majority within com-  
mittees, the Government's man-  
agers might have to drop one or two Bills they badly  
want.

The excommunications will  
have other repercussions. It  
will test Labour's ability to con-  
tain the desertion of party rank  
and file members to the causes  
of the SLP or the Scottish  
National Party.

Some Labour constituency  
parties are likely to be badly  
split, and at the next elections,  
local or parliamentary, it will be  
even more difficult for Labour  
to hold the line against the  
SNP.

Government defeat: The Gov-  
ernment was defeated by 13  
votes to four in the Commons  
yesterday in a minor revolt of  
Labour backbenchers during the  
Committee stage of the Police  
Bill (the Press Association  
reports).

Opposition MPs joined  
Labour backbenchers in sup-  
porting an amendment to the  
Bill, which sets up a Police  
Complaints Board for com-  
plaints by the public.

## SNP blow to Labour

The Government's devolution  
proposals were dealt a blow last  
night when the Scottish  
National Party not only held  
control of a local council seat,  
despite a strong campaign by  
the Labour Party, but increased  
their majority five-fold.

In the by-election at East  
Kilbride for a seat on Strath-  
clyde regional council, Mr  
George Leslie, aged 39, the SNP  
candidate, retained his seat for  
the Calderwood St Leonards  
division with a majority of  
2,708, compared with a 1974  
majority of 427.

The contest was widely  
regarded as an important test  
of public feeling over the  
devolution proposals and  
Labour's public credibility.

No fewer than three junior  
ministers and four univer-  
sity secretaries from the Scottish  
Office spoke on behalf of Mr  
William Thomson, the Labour  
candidate, although party  
chiefs denied a special effort  
was being made.

The result was: SNP 5,978;  
Labour 3,270; Conservative  
1,456; Communist 217.

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Thomas

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## ermits for dustry cut

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industry will be  
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ment. Under Secre-  
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id yesterday in a  
y written reply,  
the industry could  
quirements to well  
quota and urged  
people as possible  
from a labour force.

## Industry now climbing out of recession, CBI says

A widespread belief that  
British industry is at last be-  
ginning the long climb out of  
recession is reported in the  
Confederation of British Indus-  
try's latest industrial trends  
survey. The survey of more  
than 2,000 firms found business-  
men "cautiously optimistic"

about prospects. Orders, output  
forecasts and investment inten-  
tions all showed signs of  
improvement and the export  
picture was particularly en-  
couraging. But the CBI adds  
that industry will not shake  
free of the recession for some  
considerable time. Page 17

## Ulster unity in jeopardy

Hard-line speeches by two lead-  
ing members of Ulster's domi-  
nant "loyalist" coalition  
threatened the unity apparent  
in the first sitting of the re-  
called constitutional Conven-  
tion. Page 2

## £4m bid saves Norton works

The Norton Villiers motor  
cycle factory at Wolverhampton  
is to be bought for £4m by  
a consortium which includes  
Lord Heskest, Over 800 workers  
have been occupying the plant  
for more than five months.  
Page 17

## 'Thorpe offer to resign'

Mr Thorpe had offered to re-  
sign as Liberal leader if he  
was advised that recent events  
were damaging the party's  
interests. Mr Cyril Smith,  
Liberal Chief Whip, said, add-  
ing: "I have not so advised  
him and have no intention of  
doing so." Page 2

## Milk warning

The Government has agreed not  
to recommend certain brands  
of baby milk because they con-  
tain some risks to infants.  
Page 2

## Concern at Post Office deficit

The Commons Select Commit-  
tee on Nationalized Industries  
expressed grave concern at the  
apparent lack of knowledge in  
the Department of Industry  
about the mounting deficit in  
the Post Office's letter-post ser-  
vices. Page 4

## Indian chosen - Mr. Narinder Saroop last night became the first Asian chosen as a Conser- vative prospective parliamen- tary candidate since the war 4

City's rate cuts: Lincolnshire  
cut its rates by 6 per cent last  
year, is reducing them this  
year by 28 per cent

Helm to stay: As Tower of  
London officials debated  
possible purchase of a  
fourteenth-century helm, valued  
at £50,000, it was learnt that  
the piece of armour, sold in  
auction for £500, would not be  
leaving Britain

Rome: Italian crisis is  
described as the "worst since  
the end of the war"

Israel: Mr Rabin's anonymous  
attack on the Defence Ministry  
lands him in political trouble 8

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## 'No grief' over Mr Moynihan

America has belated itself at  
the United Nations, Mr Ivor  
Richard, the British permanent  
representative at the UN, said  
in London. The resignation of  
Mr Moynihan as the UN repre-  
sentative would cause him no  
grief. Page 7

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## HOME NEWS

# Liberal Chief Whip rejects offer by Mr Thorpe to resign 'if party is being damaged'

By Michael Hatfield  
Political Staff

Mr Thorpe yesterday offered to resign the leadership of the Liberal Party if he was advised that recent events were damaging the party's interests. No such advice was given to him by Mr Cyril Smith, the party's chief whip.

The disclosure of Mr Thorpe's offer was made by Mr Smith. He stated: "Mr Thorpe has said to me that if I advised him that it was in the best interests of the party to resign he is prepared to do so. I have not so advised him and have no intention of doing so."

Mr Smith added that he would have advised Mr Thorpe to resign if he thought he was guilty. When asked to explain what he meant, Mr Smith said: "If I thought he was guilty of corruption or bribery or telling lies, then I would not consider those to be the qualities for the leader of a national party. But I do not believe he is guilty of any of those things."

Mr Thorpe will attend a meeting of the Parliamentary Liberal Party tonight. He and Mr Smith are expected to reconvene to discuss the party's position. Mr Thorpe was in touch with Mr Smith late on Monday night when it was learned that Mr Peter Bessell, a former Liberal MP, had given an interview in which he referred to what were said to be the contents of a letter sent to his London solicitors. Mr Thorpe is understood to have telephoned to Mr Bessell, who is living in the United States.

Several Liberal MPs, including Mr Smith, were told the contents of the letter, although not shown it. It is said to be in the possession of Scotland Yard. In the letter, Mr Bessell, who was Liberal MP for Bodmin from 1964-70, is said to have explained why he made pay-

ments to Mr Norman Scott, who recently made allegations involving Mr Thorpe.

Mr Bessell is stated to have said that he made the payments to protect his own name, not Mr Thorpe's. He was worried lest revelations about a relationship with a woman should harm him.

However, Mr Bessell yesterday issued a statement through his London solicitors, Sackler and Partners, in which he stated:

"I have been asked to make a statement with reference to Mr Norman Scott. Since I understand that it is possible that I might be required to give evidence in these matters, I have concluded that it would be inappropriate to make a detailed comment. There are, however, two points which must be cleared up immediately. First, the statement which I or my company, as I have said, made to Mr Scott was given over a period of several months amounting to no more than two or three hundred pounds."

The sum involved was solely intended to help Mr Scott to establish himself at a time when he was destitute. No further assistance should be read into those payments. In particular, I reject utterly the suggestion that they were paid for on behalf of a third person.

Secondly, I have no knowledge whatsoever of any alleged payment to Mr Scott of £2,500. This refers to an allegation that Mr Scott was given that amount of money on the day of the general election in February, 1974. At the time when it was reported that this payment was made I was

recovering from a very serious illness, was totally penniless and out of communication with everyone, including my immediate family.

An aide informed that it has been suggested that my continued absence from Britain is being attributed to a fear on my part that if I return I might be bankrupted. About a year ago, with the exception of one claim by my company's former solicitors, Messrs Leonard Ross and Craig, which claim I am rigorously defending, the general cooperation of my personal creditors enabled a settlement to be made which, I believe, precludes such a possibility.

Two years ago I suffered a coronary from which I am not yet fully recovered. That illness, coupled with the fact that I no longer have a home in Britain and must concentrate upon trying to earn a living here, are why I have no plans to return. I have no intention of making a further statement.

Mr Smith, after his discussion with Mr Thorpe, said he had been assured that Mr Bessell's original statement had been made in good faith and was along the lines of the statement in the press and was with the police. Mr Thorpe would be taking no further action. "If he does, it will be in the form of a writ," he said.

He said among letters supporting Mr Thorpe was one from the Cheshire constituency party saying there would be resignations if Mr Thorpe was removed.

## MP told not to interfere

Mr John Stonehouse, who has threatened to resign from the Parliamentary Labour Party, yesterday accused a neighbouring Labour MP of invading his constituency of Walsall, North. He warned Mr Bruce George, MP for Walsall, South, to get out and stop interfering with his constituents.

Mr Stonehouse has already urged Mr Robert Mellish, Government Chief Whip, to revoke

the adoption of Mr David Winnick as a prospective candidate in Walsall, North. Yesterday he repeated his threat to reconsider his position as a member of the Parliamentary Labour Party unless steps were taken to revoke Mr Winnick's candidature.

Mr George said: "When he was feared drowned in November, 1974, I willingly assumed responsibilities for his constituency. As long as his constituency comes for assistance I will not turn them away."

The allegations came in an anonymous, duplicated letter sent to *The Times* by an unspecified source of men serving with 180 Provost Company, part of the second regiment of the Royal Military Police, which has responsibility for the greater Belfast area.

Dated February 2, and sent through the Forces' post office in Belfast, the typewritten letter stated: "The effectiveness, willingness, and morale of the company is being steadily destroyed."

It continued: "The numbers of hours worked are being steadily and predictably increased. Hours have been increased from just under 75 to nearly 90 a week."

It said: "The men and their families are breaking up just like 12 last year. The men are overworked and under-maintained duty vehicles they drive."

Calling for an inquiry, the letter concluded: "Bad management in this job is dangerous, not only to the men involved, but more important, to the country we wish to serve and the society we are trying to police."

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## Convention unity in Ulster is deceptive

From Christopher Walker  
Belfast

The deceptive unity of yesterday's brief first sittings of the recalled constitutional Convention was shattered last night by hard-line speeches from the two leading members of the dominant "loyalist" coalition.

Earlier the 78 members of the Convention agreed, with only one dissenter, to support an all-party motion in favour of renewed inter-party talks under the chairmanship of Sir Robert Lowry, Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland.

Although the talks got under way during the afternoon, they will not be of great significance until the crucial session between the two main opposing groupings, the largely Roman Catholic Social Democratic and Labour Party and the United Ulster Unionist Coalition. That has been postponed.

During the 39 minutes of the recalled Convention's full session the only speech was a rambling monologue by Professor Kenneth Lindsay, the sole representative of a minority party that wants Northern Ireland to be granted dominion status.

The new role of the chairman was outlined when Sir Robert addressed the Convention members, reminding them of the stipulation laid down by the Government in its recent command paper: "The greater the measure of support for any proposed system of government within Northern Ireland, the more likely it is that Parliament will be prepared to approve the necessary legislation."

The feelings of the loyalist leaders became evident later at a Protestant rally in the Orange Hall at Banbridge, one of a series designed to arouse popular support for the original report of the UUUC that ruled out any form of devolution.

Mr Gould was speaking at a House of Commons press conference to launch the Safeguard Campaign in Ulster. Various organizations that opposed entry into the EEC are represented.

MPs on the steering committee include Mr Gould, Mr Kenneth Powell (Down, South, United Ulster Unionist), Mr Neil Martin (Banbury, C, Mr

## Tories back 1978 Europe election

By David Wood  
Political Editor

All the signs are that Mrs Thatcher and the Shadow Cabinet will soon come out in favour of direct elections to the European Parliament in 1978. They have had two meetings to consider the recommendations of a party committee, under the chairmanship of Sir Anthony Royle, a former Minister of State at the Foreign Office, and their general drift is that 1978 is an achievable target in spite of many difficulties.

The Royle committee proposes that for the first direct election of 67 members to the European Parliament the United Kingdom should keep to the principle of first past the post, rather than any unfamiliar system of proportional representation. That means the boundary commissions for the party organizations could be expected at short notice to adjust to any new system.

Nevertheless, it is assumed that after the direct election of the European Parliament for a term of four years the United Kingdom should conform to the general system favoured by the majority of the Nine, which would probably mean proportional representation.

That is among several questions that will have to be answered in the second part of the Royle committee's report, after consultation with Conservative Central Office.

There is also another important stumbling block. None of the main United Kingdom political parties is financially stable enough to welcome added expenditure in fighting new European elections, and the question arises how the bills for European direct elections and the consequent party reorganization will be met. A section of the party is opposing any suggestion that the political parties outside Westminster should be financed by subventions from the taxpayer.

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## Farmer to keep 2-bedroom 'stable'

The Department of

veterinary ruled yesterday that an elderly Cornish farm house, which had been converted into a two-bedroom bungalow, was not a dwelling house and could not be sold as such.

Mr H. J. Osmen, of near Liskeard, Upper district council, when covered that the house, which had been converted into a two-bedroom bungalow, was not a dwelling house and could not be sold as such.

He appealed and was held last July by Butler Stoney, the county court judge, that the house should be given ten years to be converted into a dwelling house. He appealed and was held last July by Butler Stoney, the county court judge, that the house should be given ten years to be converted into a dwelling house.

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## This year, a car has been selected for the Winter Olympics.

Today sees a break with an Olympic tradition that's almost as old as we are.

(In 1896 when Karl Benz was selling the world's first production cars, Pierre de Coubertin was getting the modern Olympics going.)

Since the early days, the flame has been relayed by runners over the last stages of its journey from Mount Olympus.

When the Winter Olympics began in 1924, a similar approach was adopted.

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By Mercedes-Benz saloon.

Some purists may of course criticise the choice

of a car. But none could really criticise the car that's been chosen.

Obviously, our utter reliability must have been a decisive factor. Along with our impressive performance (so useful if you need to put your skates on).

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Independent suspension, precise steering and four-wheel disc brakes all ensure sure handling. No matter how tightly a road slaloms down a mountain-side.

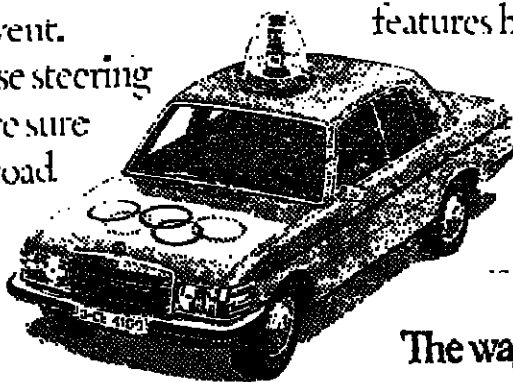
Bad visibility isn't likely to send any of our cars off course either.

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Inside and out, hundreds of standard Mercedes features helped to ensure this latest flame's arrival without incident.

In fact, we wonder why Pierre didn't ask us to participate years ago.



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مركبات الالهي



## HOME NEWS

## Ferrybridge dismissals 'unfair' but no reinstatement



The six dismissed men (left to right): Mr Morgan, Mr Palmer, Mr Mathers, Mr Holliday, Mr Smith and Mr Sarvent.

By Ronald Kershaw

An industrial tribunal in Leeds investigating the controversial case of the so-called "Ferrybridge six" yesterday announced its decision that each of the applicants in the case had been unfairly dismissed by the General Electricity Generating Board. It made no recommendations for reinstatement or reengagement in respect of any of the men. Compensation, if not agreed, will be assessed at a further hearing on application by the men.

The findings of unfair dismissal were based on the fact that the generating board was unable to establish that it was the practice for all employees to be members of a designated union.

The six men involved are Mr Desmond Palmer, Mr Robert Holliday, Mr Clifford Mathers and Mr William Sarvent (general secretary of the Electricity Supply Union, to which the men belonged), all former members of the Transport and General Workers' Union; and Mr Trehan Morgan and Mr Conrad Smith, former members of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plum-

ing Union. All are members of the Electricity Supply Union. They contended they had been unfairly dismissed because they were not members of one of four designated unions which, with the generating board, form the industry's national joint industrial council (NJIC).

Mr G. M. Smalles, chairman of the tribunal, observed:

"The applicants have succeeded in these applications on a point which has never been raised by them prior to this hearing and to which they have not obviously given any thought until the issue in this case had to be considered by their legal advisers in the light of every formal detail. They are quite entitled to our ruling in their favour on this point, although one thing that has struck us all is that they are not persons who are capable of exercising a great deal of reasoned judgment or acting with a sense of responsibility."

If their conduct in the past is to be taken as a guide, they will interpret this decision merely as an outright victory for the EGU. Right up to September 25 they never considered the real issues involved, although as long ago as January 30, 1975, Dickson and Company (the applicants' solicitors) in their letter had drawn their attention to the provision that an

employee cannot be compelled to be a member of a particular union if he objects on any reasonable grounds to being a member of that union. They seem just to have ignored this qualification.

During the interviews none of the men had contended that he had reasonable grounds for not being a member of any of the unions, or had stated what he considered were reasonable grounds, Mr Smalles said.

Their sole attitude was that the EGU was the union for them and they were going to have no other; and only at the very latest moment on September 25 did four of them decide that they were going to join the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, and even then they advanced no reasoned argument in support of this course of action. They are unyielding and inflexible types of individuals."

The tribunal's judgment observed that one tempting solution would have been to make a recommendation for reinstatement on condition that the men rejoined their original unions and to assume that the NJIC shop stewards would have tolerated them. That did not seem equitable, because on the facts regarding practice there was no obligation on them to

rejoin their original union, our decision might well have been otherwise."

It followed that the tribunal was not implying that its decision should or should not be followed in respect of any EGU applicants at other power stations, with similar applications for unfair dismissal pending, by other tribunals.

The tribunal's decision on unfairness was based on the fact that, while a closed-shop agreement was in force at Ferrybridge C power station, before an employee could be dismissed for not complying with his obligation to become a member of a union designated in the agreement it must be shown that the agreement operated: that there was a practice for all employees to be members of a designated union. The judgment said:

"In this instance the operation of the agreement was left to shop stewards who were not accountable to anyone for the efficient performance of their functions, nor liable to have their performance monitored. It has proved impossible for the board to show that it is likely that the practice of universal membership of the designated union was followed. Such being the case, the dismissals were unfair."

Leading article, page 15

## 12 years' jail for mashed potato blackmail

Two men, described by Mr Justice Talbot as ruthless blackmailers, were each given 12-year prison sentences last night for their efforts to extort £20,000 from Cadbury's by threatening to put strychnine in their "Smash" instant mash potato.

A jury at Birmingham Crown Court also brought in verdicts of guilty after a seven-hour retirement at the end of a 15-day trial heard that the two men told Cadbury directors that they could "flood the market" with "poisoned" "Smash" if their demands were not met.

The men are Christopher Curley, aged 31, of Ford Park, Ulverston, Cumbria, and Francis James Mullally, aged 33, of Whitehouse Road, Chelmsley Wood, near Birmingham.

Both were also found guilty of possessing a loaded sawn-off shotgun when they were arrested. Mr Curley was found guilty of stealing poison from a chemist's shop in Ulverston and Mr Mullally of receiving the poison. They were given shorter concurrent sentences.

## Commons concern a Post Office deficit

By Our Political Staff

The Post Office had apparently failed to appreciate the widespread criticism and concern with which the public viewed the disclosure of huge and unexpected deficits, the House of Commons Select Committee on Nationalised Industries said yesterday in a report on the Post Office's latest post services.

Sir Donald Kaberry, Conservative MP for Leeds, North-west, chairman of the subcommittee that prepared the report, said the Post Office had achieved the unenviable record of having the largest loss of any undertaking in the country in any one year.

He said the scale of the deficit appeared to have come as a surprise to both the Department of Industry and the Treasury. [The Post Office estimates that the expected deficit for all postal services for 1975-76 will be nearly £135m.]

The report said the committee was "gravely concerned at the apparent lack of knowledge in the Department of Industry of the accumulating deficit of the Post Office beyond its forecast."

But the committee did not feel that the fault lay entirely with the department. "The Post Office Board appears to

have been extremely difficult to get to the bottom of the financial problems of the Post Office."

The committee recommended a review of the postal services, the Department of Industry and the Treasury procedures to ensure that they were not disregarded. It said the Post Office should be regarded as a public utility with guaranteed delivery, for which a service should be repaid at a price that would be sufficient to cover its costs.

Declining with proper the garden gate leaving them and letter delivery trial points for flat dwellers, the committee said the Post Office had no power under existing legislation to deliver mail to homes or flats. There was no reason why amendment to the Post Act should not be sought, the committee said. A Second Report from the Committee on Nationalised Industries, Session 1975-76, to the House of Commons, Stationery Office, 27p. Price on deficit.

## Registered abortions fell 22,596 last year

By a Staff Reporter

Registered abortions in England and Wales fell last year by 22,596, or 14 per cent, according to figures released yesterday by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys.

There were 140,521 abortions in 1975, against 163,117 in 1974.

The 1975 figures represent a continued decline which began after the peak of 167,149 in 1973.

Abortions for non-resident women have fallen by 17 per cent, from 53,685 in 1974 to 44,873 in 1975. The drop has been caused by the decline in abortions for women resident in France.

However, abortions for women resident in Italy and Spain have risen by 207 per cent and 48 per cent respectively. The report says: "These fluctuations may reflect changes in abortion policies of the respective countries."

Abortions on women resident in England and Wales dropped by 21 per cent from 109,432 to 86,648. There has been a decline in all age groups with the exception of girls under 16, for whom there has been a rise of 9 per cent from 3,243 to 3,526. The increase, the report says, is "more than accounted for by the increase in the population of that age group."

## Scuffles at road plan inquiry

From Michael Horsnell

Scuffles disrupted the controversial public inquiry at Shipley, West Yorkshire, yesterday, into a 635m trunk road through the Aire Valley. However, the day ended peacefully when Mr Ernest Ridge, the Inspector from the Department of the Environment, adjourned the hearing on hour early to consider whether it was legal.

About 2,500 people have registered objections to the 11-mile road, from Shipley to west of Keighley, which would mean the demolition of more than fifty homes and a grammar school.

The inquiry has been beset with trouble which has led to summonses against 28 people.

Yesterday's hearing got off to a rowdy start when two hundred people, including local and West Yorkshire county councillors, were prevented from entering the tiny hall.

Mr John Tyne, of the National Conservation Society, who represents 183 objectors, and Mr John Burnhope, a local pig farmer, complained to Mr Ridge that they had been threatened with violence if they persisted in condemning the inquiry.

Mr J. Pearlman, a solicitor representing several objectors, including the Ramblers' Association, said a ruling by Mr Justice Fisher in 1971 indicated that the inquiry might be illegal.

Under the Highways Act the Secretary of State for the Environment is obliged to state in a public notice published in at least one local newspaper the "general effect" of the road order. The Department of the Environment contends that that merely means that the notice must state that it will result in roads being planned.

However, Mr Pearlman said that in the case of *Allied v. Bagshaw*, a Rural District Council in the County of Argyll, Mr Justice Fisher made clear they must give much more detail. "That should mean that they have got to re-examine and start again," he said.

Mr David Keene, for the department, said Mr Justice Fisher's decision had no judicial authority and was not binding.

## Knight's helm to stay in Britain

By Our Arts Reporter

As Tower of London officials began debating whether they should sell one of their treasures to buy a fourteenth-century great helm valued at £50,000, it was learnt yesterday that the piece of armour, which fetched only £500 at auction, would not be leaving Britain after all.

Peter Dale (Insignia) Ltd, the London dealer who bought the piece at Sotheby's, said: "Something has already been arranged."

But the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art, which placed a four-month suspension on the export of the helm, said: "We are not aware of anything." Equally in the dark was the Tower, which missed the helm when it came up for auction. At one time, it was disclosed yesterday, it was offered to the Tower for £100,000.

The helm was thought to be a copy made by Queen Victoria's equipment maker, Samuel Pratt.

Sotheby's had it for a sale of armour a year ago and sought expert advice about its authenticity. Mr C. Blair,



The fourteenth-century helm

Keeper of Metalwork at the Victoria and Albert Museum, who examined it, said: "I am 99.9 per cent satisfied that it is genuine."

After the sale the Tower

Armouries examined a copy using X-rays, and compared with the Pembroke helm at the Royal Scottish Museum. It was brought from Edinburgh, London, for the purpose. Every detail of construction was similar.

The helmet was not treated in the sale catalogue simply listed as "helm in style of the fourteenth century Pratt workshop."

There is only a remote chance of anything but a simple sale, unless excavation. Even that, unlikely, since English so hard on metal objects.

But its rarity value is sidetracked by the Tower to that of the Donatello: it is a piece of English history, a piece of English armour, a piece of English metalwork. It would have been worn by knight or some more exalted personage. Its last home would have been an old home in the Midlands; but sale rooms, they have specific personalities. Do not discuss sale identities.

When the arguments died, one clear fact will uppermost: that someone succeeded in picking up one of the great sale room bargains.

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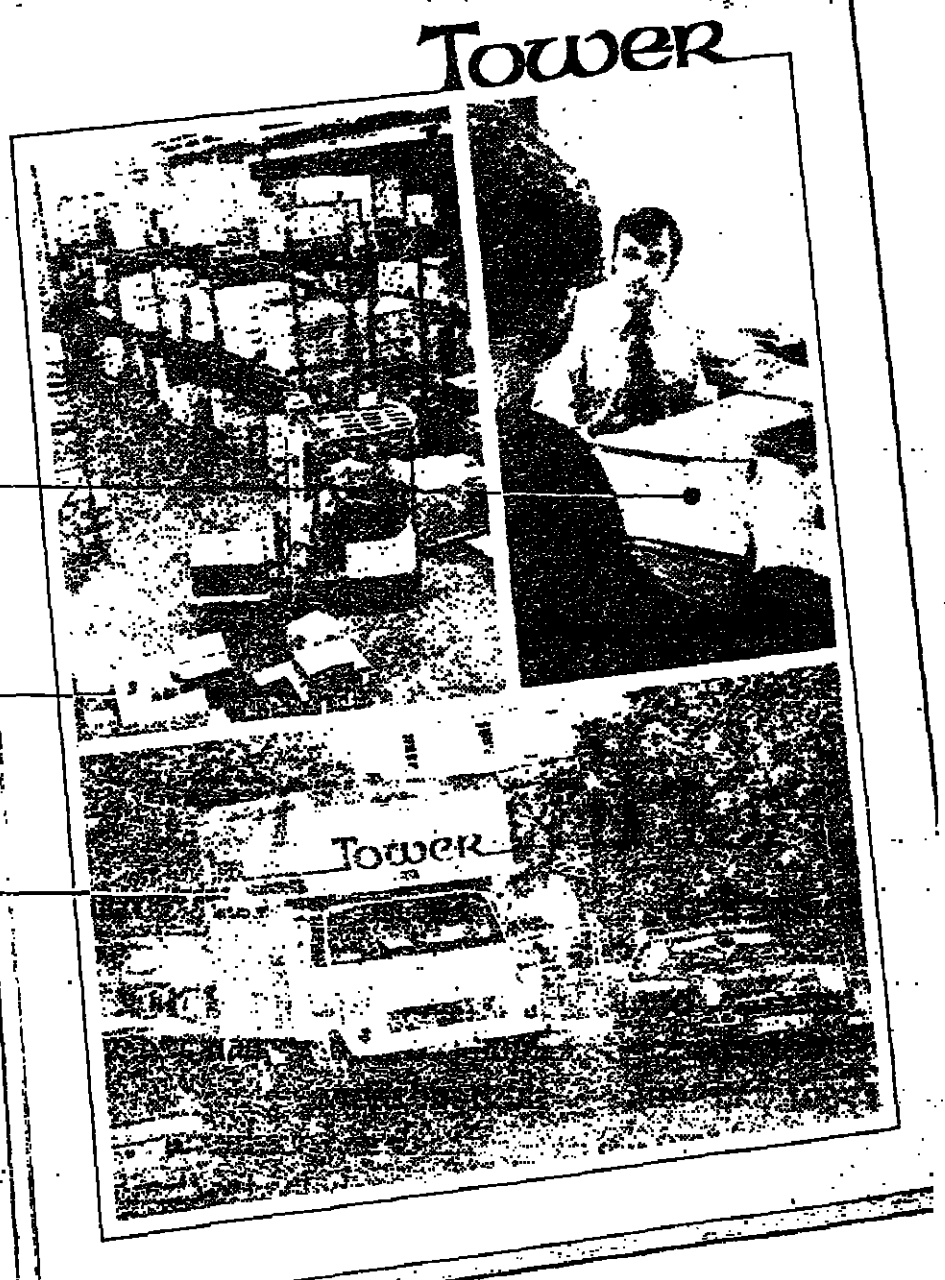
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## Bill to permit farm families succession right

An important change to a proposed law on farm tenancies was announced yesterday by Mr Peart, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. He told MPs that the Government wanted close relatives of tenants to be allowed to succeed in holdings when the tenants died.

But he added that intending inheritors would have to meet certain conditions before applying to the Agricultural Land Tribunal.

They would need the requisite agricultural experience, health and financial standing to run the farm sufficiently and to have worked on the farm for a sufficient number of years. He was speaking to members of the committee considering the Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill.

Mr Peart said the scheme would strengthen the tenancy system. It would follow the common practice of enlightened landlords who gave a son or daughter preference in taking over a father's tenancy.

**Dame Cicely in clinic**  
Dame Cicely Courtwright, who is 82, entered the London Clinic on Monday for tests. She has had to withdraw from a play—due to open at Worth—this week, her agent said.

**Lincoln explains how it cut rates**  
From Penny Symon  
Lincoln

Millions of citizens will be dismayed when they receive this year's increased rate demands, but the people of Lincoln will be among the minority who can afford a satisfied smile when theirs come through the letter box.

After what its critics regard as lack of imagination but its supporters call realism, the city council has managed to reduce the rates for the second year running. Last year the cut was 6 per cent, this year it is 28 per cent and the rates are 15.50p in the pound.

"There was no magic about the way it was done, but there was realism and scepticism about the Government's assurance that inflation would remain at 8 per cent," Mr Philip Watts, chief executive to the town clerk, said. "However, we are receiving many letters from other councils and ratepayers' groups asking us how we did it."

The council is controlled by the Democratic Labour group, the party backed by Mr Dick Forester, QC, Lincoln's former MP, when he was fighting the official Labour Party over the issue of Europe. He won a by-election in 1973, and the euphoria continued that year with Democratic Labour candi-

## Cake deliverer had fixed CD plates on his car

A traffic warden was suspicious about the CD plates on a car parked in Regent Street, London. The car was not quite up to embassy standards. The driver, a Lockheed, had an explanation for the plate. He said: "I am a cake deliverer."

That was no answer to that, as the mere use of CD plates is not an offence.

The CD trick was just one example, cited at a London luncheon yesterday by Assistant Commissioner Patrick Kavanagh, of Scotland Yard's traffic department, of how the capital's drivers are trying to beat the new traffic laws.

Mr Kavanagh also told of the flat tyre and the doctor. The flat tyre was a trick repeatedly used by a mini driver, he said.

The driver would remove the wheel, put it in the boot, and leave a note on the windscreen saying: "Sorry, gone to get puncture fixed." When he got back he would look round to make sure a warden was not near, replace the wheel, and drive off.

Another driver always left a stethoscope and a copy of *The Lancet* prominently on display, Mr Kavanagh said. Doctors were not entitled to special privileges but warden tried to be understanding. That particular driver had a good run, until he was seen loading his car with dress samples.

Finally there was the Mayfair man who did not try any tricks at all. He merely wanted to be sent a monthly account.

## Building firm complains about 'Panorama' report

The Birmingham building firm of C. Bryant and Son, which featured largely in a BBC *Panorama* film report on Monday about police inquiries into large contractors in the city over a period of several years, complained yesterday to the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Attorney General and the Solicitor General, and the Chief Constable of the West Midlands. The company said: "We are outraged by the *Panorama* programme. Its timing to coincide with the royal visit to open the National Exhibition Centre ensured maximum publicity."

In June 1974, the police inquiries began after the conviction of three architects.

Members of Birmingham council said they felt that the programme had been made to bring them into a discussion in an improper way. The BBC in London said any complaint would be considered.

## Asian pick as Tory candidate

By Peter Evans

Mr Narinder Saroo might become the first Asian to be adopted as a prospective Tory candidate by the Conservative Party since the war. He will stand for which, which Mr G. B. holds for Labour with a majority of 9,906.

Mr Saroo, an executive of a company that assists profit-making organizations, educated privately in England and served as a regular with the Indian Army. His local government experience is Kensington and Chelsea borough councillor.

Two executive members had opposed Mr Saroo afterwards that someone more local knowledge of the area would be a better choice for the seat. Their opposition had not been for racial reasons, they said.

## Group asked to study lessons of Gieves case

The Government has asked its working group on accommodation and other public health services to study the lessons of the Gieves case. Roger Gieves, who ran hostels for homeless boys in London, is serving four years in prison for offences of violence and burglary.

Mr Miescher, Under-Secretary of State for Social Services, announced in a parliamentary written answer last night that the working group is to study the implications of the Gieves case. The new group are:

To examine the lessons to be learned from the Gieves case, the group will study the case particularly in London city and on information services for homeless people. It will also study the implications of the Gieves case on the accommodation and other public health services required to meet their needs.

Two men cleared in betting case

No evidence was offered the Crown at Preston Crown Court, Lancashire, yesterday against two men accused of offences of conspiracy to defraud. The judge, Mr Justice O'Grady, aged 26, a racing trainer, of Thelby, co. Tipperary, were formally found not guilty and discharged.



WS

## Caledonian mit for UK air fares

cost is some £3m of revenue in a full year. In our view it is a wrong decision that can only harm British Airways and is not in the long-term interest of the travelling public.

British Caledonian replied: "British Airways tried to make the point about losing £3m at the hearing. On being unable to substantiate it, they were instructed by Lord Boyd-Carpenter, chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority, to withdraw the allegation, which they agreed to do. We are therefore very angry today that they have now repeated that allegation in his judgment. Mr Shore said the weight of the evidence suggested a relatively small transfer of British Airways traffic. Growth on the shuttle service should enable British Airways to recover that traffic reasonably quickly.

"There is little evidence to support the claim that severe damage will be done to British Airways' chances of achieving profitability on the trunk routes."

## s told Concorde a tion of resources'

Government was overruled. "Government is not the fountain of all technological and industrial wisdom," he said.

"It should take the scientists and engineers into its confidence on technical matters. Compared with Washington, Whitehall is a monastic closed order."

Few things emptied the House of Commons more effectively than a scientific and engineering debate, and the Select Committee on Science and Technology was "a sideshow in the parliamentary circus."

"Sorely pressed governments cannot help but continue to be attracted to quick-fix policies, however unsound, until science and engineering learn to speak out in public with much greater unanimity, confidence and persuasiveness about the social consequences of various public policies."

## Manufacturers to give smokers tar reminders

Cigarette manufacturers have agreed to draw smokers' attention to the amount of tar they consume in smoking their usual brand, the Department of Health and Social Security said yesterday.

That is expected to help the department's campaign to persuade those who cannot give up cigarette smoking to change to a brand of lower tar group. There is evidence, the department said, that the campaign is making progress. The average in July, 1972, was estimated to be 21mg for each cigarette. The estimate for July, 1975, was 19mg.

## Opening of job centre disrupted

A group of unemployed people disrupted the formal opening of Britain's first job centre in Bristol yesterday. Two of the group's leaders harranged officials and businessmen attending the opening. The police were called and the two left peacefully.

Bristol is the centre of a network of seven job centres, which will provide access to employers for people seeking employment in all occupations other than professional and executive ones.

## Call for talks on caning pupils

The Association of Metropolitan Authorities has called for discussions to see if corporal punishment can be phased out in primary schools and in special schools for the handicapped.

Mr Mulley, Secretary of State for Education and Science, recently asked for the views of authority and teachers' organizations after the controversy on a headmaster's decision that girls could be given corporal punishment.

## on importance of ark to consumer

research carried out for four CBI member companies with a sample of 1,000 consumers during a two-month period last summer.

"The objectives of the survey were: to estimate the importance of the brand name and other brand information, such as packaging, price and store location; to find out what the brand name represented to consumers in terms of quality, consistency and good value; and to assess the public response to the marketing under the same brand name of similar products from different manufacturers.

"The CBI believes the rights of trade-mark owners are increasingly under attack, particularly by the European Court of Justice, which insists that trade-mark rights should give way to the EEC rules of competition and the free flow of goods within the Community.

"Trade Marks: Report on a Survey among Housewives. CBI Paper and Publications Department, 21 Tottenham Street, London W1P 9LP. £2.75.

## Closure of chemists affects aged and parents

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

The Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee, which looks after the National Health Service dispensing activities of some 11,000 retail pharmacies, sounded a warning yesterday over a continuing decline in the number of chemists.

Mr Robert Worby, a member of the committee, said that the closure of chemists, whose service was particularly important to elderly people and mothers, were closing at the rate of nearly 300 a year. There was an annual rate of decline of a fortieth on a decreasing total. Many people had neither doctor nor chemist within easy reach.

The committee has proposed that the Department of Health and Social Security should give extra money to chemists most threatened with closure, or even finance to some extent the opening of new pharmacies.

For "a year or two at most" it could manipulate the global fund to pay all chemists what dispensing is expected to cost them. In 1976, for instance, £450m is available to cover an expected 320 million prescriptions.

In effect, better-off chemists would get less in order to keep the weaker ones afloat.

Smaller chemists, whose most profitable trade has been snapped up by supermarkets, now rely on NHS dispensing for at least three fifths of their trade.

Mr Worby said the global fund would need to be increased this year alone by about a fifth.

## Chairman of 'The Times' suggests TUC newspaper

## Left wing 'needs voice in the press'

By a Staff Reporter

Sir Denis Hamilton, chairman and Editor-in-Chief of Times Newspapers, said yesterday that the left did not have a clear enough voice in the national press. There was a gap at the point where there ought to be serious coverage of the news from a left-wing standpoint.

At the 1976 Haldane Memorial Lecture at Birkbeck College, London University, Sir Denis said that in political terms the ideas of the Tribune group did not get the sympathetic treatment that the ideas of the Monday Club did; and the lack was not entirely supplied by the readiness with which newspapers like *The Times* carried occasional signed articles by representatives of the left.

The *Daily Mirror* backed the Labour Party but did not regard itself as a vehicle for ideas; *The Guardian* and *The Observer* were not so much Labour as liberal-radical. There were left-wing papers, but for the most part weeklies such as *Tribune*, and the daily papers on that axis, the *Morning Star* and *Workers' Press*, had insignificant circulations.

He asked if the TUC could say more to run a newspaper; it might be a new one or an existing daily or Sunday paper revived. Their experience with the *Daily Herald* was discouraging, and to some extent difficulties caused by lack of purchasing power persisted.

"But blue-collar workers have more money to spend, in

real terms, than they had 20 years ago; there is printing capacity idle in both London and Manchester; the new technology of printing could reduce composing costs to a third of their present level; and costs could be further lowered by saving on some of the expensive frills of journalism: the Washington office, the daily crossword.

"Such a paper would not be competing for readers with any of the existing national, and its layout and tone should make that clear: it would be complying with the classic commercial maxim: find a gap in the market and fill it."

Sir Denis, who was discussing the question "Who is to own the British press?" spoke of the alternatives to private ownership which, he said, was inseparable from private enterprise. The shade of Northcliffe could never quite be exercised.

Political ownership narrowed the press's range of vision to the choices offered by parties or unions, and their grasp on truth; trust ownership in theory permitted total freedom of editorial view but in practice had shared with private ownership the disability of representing a comparatively narrow range of political views; ownership by workers, if it was a reality, was in danger of producing wrong-headed newspapers without much advancing the public good; and state ownership flouted the essential rule that newspapers should be in a position to criticize the state.

In the end, wherever ownership lay, control was with the readers: a newspaper was dead without them. "If you run your newspaper in such a way that your readers do not like it, then it will not be saved by any amount of reflection that if they were decent people they ought to like it. Human nature is what it is."

The chief merit of private capitalism as the least imperfect of the available systems was that it was more responsive than other systems, through the ordinary mechanisms of the market place, to the wishes of its readers. It meant that the capitalist press accurately reflected the mixture of good and bad, high-souled and fleshly, which was in human nature itself.

Imperfections included dependence on advertising, all the greater among quality papers, since they needed more money to do their work. *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* derived nearly three quarters of their income from advertising, and for that reason good newspapers were particularly vulnerable to fluctuations in the economy.

Spending on advertising might fall for another reason, so far little attended to: nationalization. Nationalization of the clearing banks, for example, would make competitive advertising needless. "Good" newspapers would suffer, a consequence which might not be unwelcome to the architects of the socialist state, even though they had not planned it."

## Liverpool dock crime cut by more than 40 pc

From John Chastres, Liverpool

The port of Liverpool, which until two years ago had an unenviable reputation for pilfering and sometimes more organized forms of crime, now claims to have one of the best security records of any port in Europe.

The Mersey Docks and Harbour Company announced yesterday that reported dock crime had been reduced by more than two-fifths in the past two years. The value of property stolen in that period had fallen by 23.2 per cent in spite of the inflated value of cargoes.

Credit for the improvements in a port that is fighting hard for its share of cargoes after many years of decline in its fortunes is given to its own security management organization, set up in 1973 under the control of Mr Thomas Bradley, former superintendent of the old Liverpool CID dock division.

The port's own police force is now being formed and the statement by the company yesterday said that even tighter security is expected when a gradual takeover from the Merseyside police begins in midsummer. Mr Edward Post, a former deputy chief constable of Surrey, took up duties as chief constable of the new port police force last month.

The improved crime figures on the six-mile strip of dockland are believed to result partly from the bringing to justice of several organized gangs that specialized in thefts of such cargoes as copper, cigarettes and spirits.

## In brief

### Trawler owners welcome decision

The Norwegian fishing industry has been refused aid by its Government to explore the prospects of mackerel fishing off the Cornish coast. The British Trawlers' Federation said the decision was a responsible one.

Mr Austen Leung, director-general of the federation, said: "It is the sort of attitude that needs to be adopted by all governments if we are to find satisfactory solutions to the many problems arising from the forthcoming world of 200-mile limits."

### 'Life' for stabbing

Peter Morgan, aged 39, of Maghull, Liverpool, who was said to have stabbed his wife's lover, John Jamieson, to death after finding them naked together in a bedroom, was sentenced at Norwich Crown Court yesterday to life imprisonment.

### Sites for 11,000 jobs

St Mellons, Cardiff, and St Enoch Station, Glasgow, were named yesterday as sites to which 11,000 Ministry of Defence jobs are to be dispersed by 1984.

### 500,000 see Turners

The British Museum's exhibition of Turner watercolours, which closed on Sunday after nine months, attracted 500,000 people.

### Mother's body found

The body of Mrs Kathleen Joyce Blackburn, aged 34, a mother of three children, has been found near her car in Shoreham Harbour, Sussex.



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## PARLIAMENT, February 3, 1976

## Mr George Thomas takes over as Speaker with good will and confidence of MPs: tributes to Mr Selwyn Lloyd

## House of Commons

The House met to elect a successor to Mr Selwyn Lloyd as Speaker.

The SPEAKER said he wished to amplify his statement a fortnight ago indicating his intention to resign the Chair. He would begin by thanking all those who had served the House and himself in all his period of office. He would not name anyone, thereby maintaining his record.

I think the House is aware (he said) of its collective faults: the long windedness, the tendency to interrupt, the politeness of order, inability to scrutinise Bills and statutory instruments as they should be scrutinised, and many other things which were pointed out yesterday.

On the credit side, I think most MPs work extremely hard. They are an important link in an increasingly important link between ordinary citizens and Government departments and public bodies. They at least can get an answer even though it may not always be a satisfactory one.

Although the volume of Government business means that the check on legislation is far from being as good as it should be, Ministers can be questioned, and it can be called to account and if a majority in the House so decided they can turn the Government out.

These are not inconsistent matters. Therefore, though politicians as a species have never been popular, do not let us denigrate ourselves much.

He was resigning primarily because five years was as long as anyone could be expected to occupy the office of Speaker with its many strains and stresses.

Having made that decision (he went on), I have to consider the position as an MP. I firmly believe the Speaker should be elected for a constituency as all other MPs are and so he kept resolutely in touch with the hopes, fears, and personal individual needs of many thousands of ordinary men and women.

Therefore to mark the fact that I am an ordinary member, I have decided, as it is my right to say on as a member of the House.

(Cheers.) I am grateful for that—(laughter)—but I have also noted the uniqueness on the surface of the "usual channels"—(renewed laughter)—at the prospect of yet another (loud) cheer about.

Although I shall stay in it only for a few days, and this time next week or thereabouts I hope to be unavailable to reach the House or to be of any use to the House.

Mr Lloyd had presided over the deliberations of the House in three successive Parliaments. He was a man of character—one was where there was a substantial majority or one party, and another where the House was divided.

There had also been the necessary occasional temporary attack of deafness and a selected deficiency of sight. (Laughter.)

Mr Lloyd had also brought his own qualities of good humour and charm to the House which had both enlightened and endeared its work.

On the last occasion you were elected to the Chair (Mr Wilson continued) I have to consider the conduct of the Speakership had finally freed me from my view—that was a view held by the House for over a century that a senior ex-Minister should not be elected Speaker. Because of your conduct in the Chair many of us have changed our view.

Mr Lloyd had been Speaker during five years of change and development. He had been ready merely to acquiesce in change but ready also to take an active interest in the more dynamic role for Parliament.

He had taken risks and created precedents. At times he had initiated change by his leadership.

To the cheers of the House Mr Wilson ended by wishing him a vigorous and happy retirement.

MRS THATCHER, Leader of the Opposition (Baroness, Finchley, C.), said she wholeheartedly supported the Prime Minister's decision that he was to leave the Chair.

She said to Mr Lloyd: As the curtain comes down on this most distinguished career, I wish you to extend to you the affection and gratitude and good wishes of my friends and of my friends and myself. (Cheers.)

While honouring Mr Lloyd as Speaker she said she was grateful to his colleagues who had served the House for their years of friendship, encouragement, and guidance.

The office of Speaker (she said) commands our loyalty and support, but only the holder of this office can gain what you will take away with you today—our love and admiration. We shall miss your most devoted and faithful servant.

MR THORPE, Leader of the Liberal Party (North Devon, L.), said he saluted Mr Lloyd as a Speaker who had been firm, impartial and upheld every one of the traditions of the House.

The authority of the Speaker rested on his ability to gain the confidence of his fellow MPs, their respect for his fairness and the fact that he was held in the highest regard. On that last Mr Lloyd's authority had been immense. It was not the task of a man from outside to wield power in an authoritarian sense. He had to catch the temper of the House.

Mr Lloyd had sought to see that all debates all shades of opinion were fairly represented.

Mr Lloyd's first great joy must have been to hear to a speech as a matter of duty, but his second was that in serving Parliament he had served the cause of democracy.

MR DONALD STEWART, Leader of the Scottish National Party (Western Isles, Scot Nat), said that he and his colleagues were grateful for Mr Lloyd's help and support in the House.

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ing conditions of the House would be of great assistance to MPs in future.

MR ENOCH POWELL (South Down, UUUC) said that he wished to join in the tributes to the Speaker of the House whose resignation he had just announced.

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loved colleague; not only eloquence and judgment but courtesy, affability, sensibility, kindness, good humour, and a wit which scored but never wounded.

He wished him God speed and good fortune in the task that lay ahead.

MR GEORGE THOMAS, Chairman of Ways and Means and Deputy Speaker (Cardiff, West Lab), rose to cheer from all sides.

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## WEST EUROPE

## Right wing says Spain is threatened by Masons and Marxists

## From Our Correspondent

Madrid, Feb 3

Two right-wing Spanish organizations, Fuerza Nueva and the Roman Catholic Spanish Brotherhood of Priests, today condemned the Government's moves towards liberalization.

The Brotherhood, which claims 7,000 members, attacked Freemasonry and Marxism as the country's greatest enemies, and said legal wars reorganizing the while the Government was looking on passively.

"It would be suicidal to give freedom of action to those who would bring us back to the same situation as before the civil war," it said. Several universities were attacked for being "nests of Marxism".

Señor Blas Piñar, an MP appointed directly by General Franco, told 1,200 people in Cartagena that Fuerza Nueva had obstructed building workers who tried to return to building sites hit by strikes.

The 2,000 strikers tried to march yesterday to the San Ildefonso church where striking coal miners in the north, Valencia in the south, and in other Spanish cities are the latest developments.

The strikes began in Madrid on January 5. The work stoppages are aimed basically at repealing a Government-imposed freeze on the rate of pay increases.

The main centre of conflict in Valencia is the Renault car plant which management closed down last week after strikes. The company announced yesterday that 40 alleged strike leaders had been dismissed.

Practically all strikes remain illegal in Spain. In Madrid, industry has practically returned to normal this week after strikes two weeks ago involving 200,000 workers—UPI.

Coins showing the head of King Juan Carlos have gone into circulation. Some Spaniards have taken heart from the fact that, whereas General Franco's

head looked to the right, the King's looks to the left.

In Bilbao a demonstration is demanding the release of a son of an industrialist kidnapped three weeks ago. The Basque separatist organization ETA is said to be responsible for the kidnapping, with a demand for about 663,000 ransom.

The Basque nationalist party is reported to have issued a note denouncing ETA and accusing the organization of making it impossible for the Government to grant amnesty for political prisoners while they continue terrorist tactics.

Madrid, Feb 3.—The police have used smoke bombs to break up a march by some 2,000 workers in Valladolid. The sources said today that pickets had obstructed building workers who tried to return to building sites hit by strikes.





Policemen boarded coaches at Fenchurch Street station, London, yesterday to question men they believed were bound for Angola as mercenaries.

## Safety fears of California nuclear men

From Our Own Correspondent

New York, Feb 3  
The question of the safety of nuclear power plants has been raised in California by the resignation of three senior engineers from the General Electric Company. The men said they were concerned about the adequacy of plant designs, as well as the possibility of human error.

"Nuclear power has become a technological monster, and it is not clear who, if anyone, is in control," one of them wrote in his resignation letter. The continuing development of nuclear power would lead inevitably to a catastrophic accident, he added.

All three men are now to work in support of a legislative proposal known as the California nuclear safeguards initiative.

## Death warning to Argentina leftists

From Jane Monahan

Buenos Aires, Feb 3

Argentina's feared right-wing organization, the Triple A, has issued a communiqué that gives warning of an imminent and spectacular round of killings of members of left-wing parties, guerrilla groups, "economic delinquents, corrupt politicians, corrupt trade union leaders and progressive priests."

The specific parties threatened are the pro-Soviet Communist Party, the Marxist Revolutionary Communist Party that supports President Perón, the proscribed left-wing Peronist Authentic Party, the Workers Revolutionary Party, Marxist-Leninist guerrillas and a left-wing group of the Radical Party called the Radical Revolutionary Youth.

The Triple A has operated with impunity in Argentina ever

since Juan Domingo Perón returned from exile in June, 1973. Last year more than 1,000 people in the country died through political violence, quite apart from unrecorded deaths after disappearances.

Eighty per cent of these killings are known to have been the work of right-wing organizations.

The Triple A's announcement comes soon after Mr Robert Hill, the American Ambassador to Argentina, made a public statement praising Argentine efforts to maintain a constitutional government. The ambassador, who was speaking in New York to representatives of American banks, diplomats and businessmen, illustrated his confidence in Argentina by saying that he had installed both his wife and son in Buenos Aires.

## No grief in London at Moynihan departure

By Roger Berthoud

The United States has isolated itself at the United Nations, irritated its friends and encouraged its enemies, Mr Ivor Richard, Britain's permanent representative at the United Nations, said in London yesterday. He made it clear to an audience at the Royal Institute of International Affairs that the resignation of Mr Daniel Moynihan, as United States representative, would cause him no grief.

It had been impossible to reconcile some of the things which Mr Moynihan had been saying in the United Nations Assembly with what Dr Kissinger, the United States Secretary of State, had said in his wholly prize-worthy speech to the seventh special session on development, Mr Richard said. The collective position of the West had been endangered by an element of bitterness and rancour.

He thought the present situation all the more regrettable because the Soviet Union was seen to have nothing to offer, and to be irrelevant to the debate on the "new international economic order".

Mr Richard specifically denied that in his less direct attack on the Moynihan approach in November he had been acting as a stool pigeon of Dr Kissinger. He had made a similar less public speech in the United States only a few days previously.

Focusing on one of Mr Moynihan's central beliefs, Mr Richard said he did not accept that there was such a thing as a monolithic bloc of (developing) nations which could be relied on to vote in a way inimical to the West, or that there was a "tyranny of the majority" in the Assembly.

There was a difference of perception in the West towards the role of the United Nations. The British Government believed it could be used as an instrument of British policy and of international cooperation. The contrary view was that it was an arena for ideological confrontation between

the 25 or so genuine democracies and the remaining 110 or so developing or communist countries, who were basically hostile and undemocratic.

The real difference was whether one believed one could use the United Nations as an effective instrument of cooperation or not. He thought one could.

Peter Strafford writes from New York: Mr Moynihan was asked by reporters last night whether he had jumped or been pushed into resigning. He replied: "I didn't necessarily jump. I certainly wasn't pushed."

He denied that there was any connexion between his resignation and the telegram he sent last week complaining of opposition to his approach from the State Department.

Few tears are being shed over his departure. But at the same time there is little expectation that the substance of American policy will change. It is thought that whoever succeeds him will continue to react to attacks on the United States and the West from the developing world.

The general assumption is that Mr Moynihan is interested in standing for election to the Senate from New York state this autumn. When he met reporters at the United Nations last night he denied it, but this is not necessarily convincing, especially as he said he expected to be "back in government" some day.

New York state politicians have been totting up his advantages as a Democratic candidate to stand against Senator James Buckley, the Conservative Republican. Being an Irish-American would not do him any harm, nor would his outspoken defence of Israel at the United Nations. Against him is his reputation, dating back to his days in the Nixon Administration, of being less than enthusiastic about the cause of the blacks.

At the United Nations, a number of delegates have assumed for a long time that he is primarily interested in American politics, and that this explains many of his outbursts.

## shch appeal to Western left

page 1  
h went on: "I to see how I intellectually. My e jerky, abrupt, began to go."

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ich appealed to the of the West to back for a Dubcek-type ussia.

"We Soviet neo-Marxists," he said, "have always hoped that the Indian, French and English Communist parties will carry on the work of the Czech Communist Party, rehabilitate communist ideas, and put the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in the position of having to choose between Mao-Stalinism and communism with a human face."

Before reading his statement, he dwelt at length on a letter he had sent on Saturday to the communist organ *L'Humanité*, thanking the French Communist Party for its part in securing his release, and asking it to intervene on behalf of Mustafa Djemil, the Crimean Tatar leader and fighter for human rights, who is on a hunger strike in a Soviet prison.

*L'Humanité* did not publish the letter. It wrote today that it did not receive it. But several other Paris newspapers received photocopies.

Mr Piyushch described the methods of those who were responsible for the photocopies as "very reminiscent of the KGB. I do not know who it is."

But I think someone is trying to create bad blood between myself and my French communist friends."

After the reading of the statement, Mr Piyushch answered questions. A representative of *L'Humanité* asked him whether he did not think that the press conference, held on the eve of the Communist Party congress, might not be an anti-communist manoeuvre.

"The coincidence between the two is purely fortuitous," he replied. "I hope this press conference will not harm the communists and socialists of France." As for the letter he had sent for publication in *L'Humanité*, he said: "I wrote it sincerely, in the hope that the French Communist Party would continue its valiant struggle for the liberation of dissidents in Russia."

Mr Piyushch was asked if he approved of the attitude of Mr Alexander Solzhenitsyn, the writer, since he had come to the West? "I do not agree with his political opinions, but it is his right to hold them," was the reply.

## Senator who believes he can capture the centre

## Are Americans ready to elect an Independent for President?

By Louis Heren

Senator Charles Mathias of Maryland, a respected liberal Republican who emerged after Vietnam and Watergate with his reputation considerably enhanced, leaves London for Washington today to decide whether he should announce his candidacy for the Presidency.

It will be a difficult decision, and not only because he would be the first to admit that Mathias is hardly a household name. If he does decide to run it will be as an Independent candidate.

This would appear to be the shortest route to political oblivion but the senator is not deterred by the miserable fate of third-party candidates. According to his reading of history, they were not Independent but radical Democrats and Republicans.

They failed because of their radicalism and today the two main parties are strongly influenced by their radical wings. The Republican Party is moving steadily to the right and the Democratic Party, which he believes is still influenced strongly by the McGovern reformers, is moving to the left.

The crucial centre, where American elections are won, is wide open. He believes that he has a good chance of capturing it as an Independent.

Senator Mathias also believes that the American voter is fed up with the parties because they have failed to deal with the real issues. Neither party is

much concerned about the tragedy of unemployment and the precarious condition of the cities, although about 8,500,000 are out of work and the majority of Americans now live in cities.

Their disenchantment is reflected in the number of registered voters. About 40 per cent of the electorate have not registered either as Republicans or Democrats and an Independent candidate could win with their support.

He would campaign on what he sees as the real issues: unemployment, the urban crisis and environment. He also regards the quality of life as an issue, although it would be difficult to define.

He would also seek only one term. It would be a kind of national sabbatical during which the country could consider its goals, and set a course for the future.

One difficulty the senator sees is to convince the electorate that he will run as a genuine Independent, and not as a Republican in disguise. His voting record should help. He has invariably followed an independent line in the Senate, but he believes that he will have to seek an Independent from the Democratic Party for his vice-presidential running-mate.

Apparently he has already been approached by Mr Eugene McCarthy, who ran as a Democratic candidate in 1968. It could be argued that the former senator from Minnesota also campaigned for a sabbatical term, but Mr Mathias is

apparently not enthusiastic over the prospect of having him on the ticket.

The senator's most immediate worry is the Campaign Finance Law, as amended by the Supreme Court. It would appear to work against Independent candidates in that they would be denied large contributions as well as party funds.

If this proves to be the case, he will not be able to run. He reckons that, even a shoe-string campaign, will cost at least \$20m (£10m) and only a Rockefeller or a Kennedy could afford that. However, he is planning to register his candidacy in at least the 15 biggest industrial states, the minimum number if he is to have a chance of winning.

He is also assuring the doubtful that an Independent President could work constructively with a Democratic or Republican-controlled Congress. Certainly he could do no worse than President Ford or former President Nixon.

As senator, he introduced a Bill to end the state-of-emergency powers still available to presidents under the 1950 Korean War proclamation, and another requiring the executive branch to provide Congress with more information. As early as 1972, he argued strongly that no public official should subordinate loyalty to the Constitution to an allegiance to the President.

On balance, he could be the man Americans are looking for, but his chances are slim.

## Decision day for Concorde in the US

From Our Own Correspondent

Washington, Feb 3

Mr William Coleman, the United States Secretary for Transportation, is to announce tomorrow whether Concorde will be permitted to land at Dulles international airport, near Washington, and give an opinion on its also using Kennedy airport, New York.

If the Secretary approves, the airlines would be allowed to use Concorde at Dulles, as soon as they were ready, after a 30-day interval, unless Congress or the courts intervened. They would have to get permission to use Kennedy from the New York Port Authority.

Environmental groups in Virginia are ready to sue if Concorde is allowed to use Dulles;

one suit is already in progress.

The Virginia House of Delegates today administered an unexpected rebuff to Concorde supporters by overturning a State Senate resolution recommending temporary permission for the Dulles flights. There had been a local assumption that the Virginia legislators were going to support a temporary permit

## Mr Sadat blames Lebanese leaders

From Our Correspondent

Cairo, Feb 3

President Sadat today blamed the civil war in Lebanon on Lebanese leaders fighting for their own interests and on the Syrian Government.

In an interview with the Lebanese magazine *Al-Hawadeth*, he said the Lebanese leaders were in the first place responsible. "Every political leader in Lebanon wanted to achieve his own interests during the presidential election year... so they changed the nature of the crisis," Mr Sadat said.

On the other hand, he added, there was also Syria which supplied the warring sides with arms and rejected any Arab intervention, on summit or any other level, to resolve the conflict.

"Syria has a direct influence in the Lebanese arena because it is the main source of weapons and does not want the Arabs to expose its role."

Mr Sadat also accused Syria of imposing its guardianship over the Palestine Liberation Organization. "If such guardianship is not clear to the Arab nation, it is high time to unmask it."

President Sadat attacked Syria's ruling Baath Party, accusing it of applying deliberate sabotage methods to disrupt Arab solidarity.

Egypt would continue political efforts to settle the Middle East crisis until it was ascertained that all diplomatic efforts were exhausted. Then, Egypt's return to military action would be logical, natural and acceptable, by world public opinion, the president said.

On Egyptian-Soviet relations, he painted a gloomy picture and said there was still no progress towards settling the two countries' disputes.

Tiger Wadi, Israel, Feb 3.—Israeli troops fired mortar shells three miles into Lebanese territory today to head off possible Arab guerrilla attacks. Officers said they had spotted movement of what they believed to be Arab guerrillas



## Costs take a dive

More than ever before, owners and operators of indoor swimming baths are faced by rising energy prices with increasing costs for maintaining comfortable temperatures for swimmers. If pool temperatures are reduced, attendances fall. If the heating and ventilating system is switched off when the pool is unoccupied, the resultant condensation can cause deterioration of the building fabric.

## How to save energy and money

Realising the problems, engineers in the Electricity Boards pursued the idea of applying heat recovery systems to swimming pools. In particular, heat pumps had already

been used in Germany to produce worthwhile savings. Benefiting from this experience, Electricity Boards have built up considerable expertise, and today heat pumps are a proven method of cutting energy costs.

Basically, heat pumps are refrigeration machines arranged to operate as heat exchangers. In an indoor pool, the warm moisture-laden exhaust air contains a great deal of heat which is extracted by the heat pump and transferred at an increased temperature to heat the ventilation air, pool water and shower water simultaneously.

## What does it cost?

The extra equipment needed increases the capital costs of the mechanical and electrical services for

a new pool by some 15-20%—but a reduction in the running costs of some 50% could be achieved. This means that a typical energy cost of £60 per year to heat each square metre of pool surface could be reduced to £30. Savings of this order allow a payback of the extra capital costs in two or three years. Thereafter these savings will continue to be made. Not only of money, but of the nation's energy.

Existing pools can also benefit from heat recovery, provided they are heated and mechanically ventilated. The capital costs of the heat recovery equipment will be higher than those for a new pool, but similar savings can be achieved.

Another example of how electricity is helping to cut costs and conserve our valuable resources.

Electricity does the nation a power of good



The Electricity Council, England and Wales



## OVERSEAS

# Mr Rabin's anonymous attack on Defence Ministry lands him in trouble with press and Knesset

From Eric Marsden, Jerusalem, Feb 3.

When he returns from his United States visit, Mr Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, will be faced with a motion of no confidence, expected to be debated by the Knesset next Monday.

It concerns remarks made at a Washington briefing by a senior source "which suggested that the Defence Ministry had submitted a list of arms requests to Washington which was exaggerated and 'did no honour' to Israel's name."

Correspondents' reports and leading articles in Israeli newspapers have identified the senior source as the Prime Minister himself, adopting a tactic commonly used by Dr Kissinger, the American Secretary of State.

The reports have caused a political storm in Jerusalem and the "senior source" has been accused of airing criticism of a colleague while on a visit abroad. The independent daily *Haaretz* has on two successive days assailed the Prime Minister for harming Israel's image in the United States, accusing

him of lack of responsibility, hypocritical pretence and personal haughtiness.

The motion of no confidence is being tabled by Mr Haim Landau, one of the leaders of the right-wing Likud opposition. Mr Landau says the criticism of Israel's arms requests by the "senior source" has harmed the country's international prestige and its security interests and demonstrates that the Government is no longer able to rule effectively.

The motion is unlikely to succeed, though the dismayed shock caused by the incident is not confined to the opposition. It is being interpreted as a rebuke by the Prime Minister to Mr Peres, the Defence Minister, and to Lieutenant-General Mordechai Gur, the Chief of Staff, who were chiefly responsible for the arms requests.

Mr Peres has refused to comment on the criticism, preferring to await the Prime Minister's return, but supporters of the Defence Minister and the Chief of Staff have pointed out that the arms list was signed by Mr Rabin before it was submitted. To this sources close

to the Prime Minister answer that some arms requests were made to the United States without being checked by the Prime Minister.

During his visit Mr Rabin has tried, apparently unsuccessfully, to persuade President Ford to restore a cut in supplies of arms during the next fiscal year from \$1,500m (£750m) to \$1,000m. The remarks at the briefing are being interpreted as an attempt to explain his failure.

The Prime Minister's critics cannot understand why instead of trying to justify the original request, which was one of his aims in going to Washington, he should represent himself as apologizing for it by admitting that it was exaggerated and adding: "Thank God we have corrected this."

The row caused by the briefing is expected to intensify the internal dissensions within the Labour Party, which have been marked by policy differences between Mr Rabin, Mr Peres and Mr Allon, the Foreign Minister. Several of the allegations of Cabinet "leaks" damaging to one or other of the leaders have been based on their rivalry.

## Nigerians to move capital from Lagos

From Our Special Correspondent, Kaduna, Nigeria, Feb 3

Nigeria is to have a new capital and seven new states. General Murtala Muhammed, the head of state, announced today.

In a broadcast he said the capital would be moved from Lagos on the south-west coast to a federal territory of about 2,000 square kilometres in the centre of the country. He did not specify the exact location but said that it was not under the control of any of the main ethnic groups in Nigeria (Yoruba, Igbo and Hausa-Fulani).

It is widely believed here that the site will be near the town of Abuja in the present North Western state, about 100 miles south of Kaduna.

Shifting the federal capital would help to alleviate congestion in Lagos. The Lagos state Government will also transfer from the city to Ikeja, near the international airport.

General Muhammed said it would take between 10 and 15 years to transfer the federal Government to the new site. He hoped that the groundwork would be completed and construction started within the next four years.

The seven new states are to be formed out of the present Western, East Central, North Western, Benue Plateau, and North Eastern states. The present 12 states were created by General Gowon in 1967 out of the former Northern, Western and Eastern regions.

The Western state is to be split into three states: Ogun (capital: Abeokuta); Ondo (Akure); and Oyo (Ibadan). East Central is to be divided into two (Owerri) and Anambra (Enugu).

North Western splits into Niger (Minna) and Sokoto (Sokoto); Benue Plateau into Benue (Makurdi) and Plateau (Jos); and North Eastern into Bauchi (Bauchi); Borno (Maiduguri) and Gongola (Yola).

The creation of new states is part of a programme for return to civilian rule in 1979.

## How the vicar's wife makes nonsense of Women's Lib

Ruth Hook, wife of the Bishop of Bradford, contributes this week's guest column.

By refusing to ordain women the Roman and Anglican churches have put themselves outside the Sex Discrimination Act. This has provoked only minimal protest from Women's Lib, whether because reaction to the mystique of priesthood is still residually staid, or, more likely, because the church imposes so little on the consciousness of public protesters. But there are other women connected with the church whose place during international Women's Year has been made ambivalent by their own attitudes, and who have largely opted to make their case a special one: they are the wives of the clergy.

Twenty-eight years ago I dropped my own profession to marry a parson. On my wedding day I dreamed tranquilly of a future exclusively devoted to housekeeping as the rectory, mothering a family, and providing total support to my husband in his parish. I doubt whether such dreams can be wholly tranquil for the clergy wife of the 1970s. The legitimate voices of today remind her insistently that she is a person in her own right. The odds are that she is a qualified person, having reached a high level of proficiency in her chosen career. Must she, then, always subordinate her life to her husband's in order that his job may be successful? Must she allow the privacy of her own home to be infringed from dawn till midnight in order that his parish wheels may be kept turning? Must she tolerate his absence evening after evening, bearing the full brunt of child care, in order that he may have the latitude to do his job properly?

To make his job successful, to permit him to do his job properly—there lies the root of the tension. The clergy wife may no longer be required to run the Mothers' Union and all the women's committees, but she remains the hoped-for presence in the rectory, ideally the sympathizer, the provider of resources, the link person, as well as the agent responsible for ensuring that her husband is freed from emotional worries of his own. If she refuses the role, she knows she will lessen her husband's effectiveness, and if she accepts it, she is according to today's climate which suggests she do her own thing, she does herself an injury. If economic necessity drives her to take paid employment, conscience may well constrain her to cram parish commitments into after-hours at heaven's expense, and in terms of self-haunting. There is danger in every choice.

All this would seem to add up to an insoluble dilemma. Often in practice it is not seen as such. A group of wives was recently asked: Do you contribute to the smooth running of your husband's parish



because you believe in the cause, or because you want your husband's show to be a good one? The answer, on reflection, was: Both. Those are not real alternatives. Most ordinals and clergy wives people already committed to their cause and the dynamic of that cause is the love described in the two great Commandments. If the clergy wife submerges her desire for personal fulfilment in the multifarious, time-consuming chores that will help to make her husband's show a good one, what she does out of supportive love for her husband has love of God and neighbour as an end product.

Here, then, is the special case which makes nonsense out of Women's Lib as such; but it cannot be seen as a special case except from within, except by the woman herself who understands that the sacrifice demanded by love transcends notions of fairness and justice. Since the idea of justice is so fashionably dominant, it takes a pretty strong conviction to demote it to second place; but the conviction is made viable by reliance on a Gospel which nowhere makes fairness its criterion, which everywhere breathes the preeminence of love.

It would be unrealistic to discount the suffering of that minority of clergy wives

who are unable to end the dilemma whose perplexity or resentment has increased by the emancipated voice of the age. It would be facile to estimate the cost paid by those women who find their way out of the dilemma—a cost that can be increased by the husband's who cult their parishes but neglect their wives. The wonder is that in so many parishes throughout the land cheerfulness is breaking in, and there are women who show a life-enhancing gaiety. Suffice there must be. But some, the young well as the older, have found such silliness in marriage that the hurt, from which cause, is a small price to pay for satisfaction of a shared life of service.

What is it men in women do require? The lineaments of gratified desire? What is it women do in men require? The lineaments of gratified desire?

Blake's commotion was sexual. With paragonesses I have seen lineaments express desire gratified across a widely inclusive range of experience: here we may find Equal Rights as much rejected as by-passed.

© Times 76

## Jordan renews interest in West Bank

From Our Own Correspondent, Jerusalem, Feb 3

Several West Bank members of the Jordan Parliament are in Amman, advising King Hussein on the mood in the occupied area and the prospects for the municipal elections to be held in April under the auspices of the Israeli military Government. The parliamentarians were summoned by the King during the weekend.

Their departure has aroused speculation in Israel that the King is about to strengthen his position on the West Bank in order to reassert his claim to it, though this would be contrary to the decision of the Arab summit conference at Rabat in

1974. This was to make the Palestine Liberation Organisation the sole representative of the Palestinians and the decision was then accepted by Jordan.

Israeli observers predict that the King will soon appoint a new Government with an increased number of Palestinian members. It is also expected to reconvene the Jordan Parliament, which was dissolved early last year. The Assembly has equal numbers of Jordanian and Palestinian members.

Visits during the past two days to Amman and Riyadh by Mr Zaid Rifai, Jordan's Prime Minister, are also being connected with the renewed interest in the West Bank.

Next month, King Hussein is to visit Washington, where President Ford had recently agreed with Mr Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, that negotiations on the future of the West Bank should be between Israel and Jordan, and that there was no room for a third state in the area.

However, this may prove an over-simplified reading of political activity across the Jordan. King Hussein's recent actions, including his cooperation with Syria, indicate that his chief concern is to protect Jordan's prospering economy rather than to seek confrontation with other Arab states.

## White violence in Windhoek closes multiracial dances

From Our Correspondent, Johannesburg, Feb 3

White hooligans have forced the managers of an hotel in Windhoek, capital of South-West Africa, to abandon a five-month-old experiment in integration—Saturday dances for black and white teenagers. The Kaiser-Krone hotel had become increasingly the target for brawls and threats of violence. A petrol bomb was thrown through the front door a few weeks ago.

Announcing the end of the dances last night, Mr Rudolph Morgenroth said: "We have had too much trouble from white South-West Africans, so the dances must end."

Mr Morgenroth, still carrying a black eye from a brawl two weeks ago, added that he was moving his family to Johannesburg. He said his children were being ostracized at school. The Kaiser-Krone started the

dances five months ago after the South-West African administrative council gave a few hotels leave to admit blacks. It was intended as part of a programme to relax discrimination after the start of multiracial constitutional talks on South-West Africa's future. Mr Adolf Brinkman, an executive councillor who proposed the dances, said the intention to promote multiracial dances. The aim had been to ensure that people of all races were assured of accommodation and restaurant facilities.

For several weeks gangs of whites have been gathering near the hotel and molesting youngsters leaving the dances. Mr Morgenroth said: "We have had absolutely no trouble from the Coloured or black people. When there is fighting, it is always the white South-West Africans who are behind it all."

## Habeas corpus writ sought for Dr Sithole

From Our Correspondent, Salisbury, Feb 3

An application for a writ of habeas corpus in connection with the disappearance of Dr Edson Sithole, of the African National Council, has been set down to be heard in the Salisbury High Court on Thursday.

It is believed that the judge will be asked to order the release of one who can produce evidence of the whereabouts of Dr Sithole and Miss Miriam Mkhlanga, his secretary, who disappeared on October 5 after being taken away in a grey van from outside a hotel in central Salisbury by a group of whites and blacks.

In spite of constant denials by the Government, it is widely circulated saying the couple have been seen in various parts of the country. Mr Joseph Taylor, a private detective, claimed recently that he had a dossier which contained proof that Dr Sithole was still alive and in the country.

## African leader survives murder attempt

Paris, Feb 3.—President Jean-Bedel Bokassa, of the Central African Republic, narrowly escaped assassination today at an airport, according to informed sources.

He was about to leave for a hunting trip when three men, all said to be members of the armed forces, hurled a grenade in his direction. The President was saved by a bodyguard who threw him to the ground, the sources added.

Two of the would-be assassins were killed and the third seriously wounded. According to the sources, one member of the President's entourage was killed and another wounded in the explosion. The President was uninjured.

## In brief

### UN man's ship risks sinking

Jakarta, Feb 3.—Mr Adam Malik, the Indonesian Foreign Minister, has given a warning that a ship carrying Signor Vittorio Guicciardi, a United Nations survey on fact-finding mission, risks being sunk if it attempts to penetrate disputed areas of East Timor.

Pro-Indonesian authorities in the Timorese capital of Dili are reported to have ordered their forces to fire on any ship or aircraft approaching East Timor's territorial waters.

### New forces chief

Hongkong, Feb 3.—Lieutenant-General Sir Edwin Bramall, Commander of the British forces in Hongkong, will succeed General Sir Roland Gibbs as Commander-in-Chief, United Kingdom Land Forces.

### Police killer hangs

Nassau, Bahamas, Feb 3.—Earl Dean, the killer of a police inspector in 1974, was hanged here today in spite of several last minute attempts to stay his execution on the ground that the murder bullet was never found.

### Labour power curbed

Buenos Aires, Feb 3.—President Isabel Peron has accepted the resignations of her Economy and Labour Ministers in an apparent move to limit the labour movement's influence in her administration.

### The rains came

Erassila, Feb 3.—An inspection by the Interior Minister of a Brazilian agricultural area hit by the worst drought in 10 years was called off today because of heavy rains which prevented his aircraft landing.

### Rodent invasion

Geneva, Feb 3.—An appeal on behalf of 150,000 people in Senegal afflicted by an invasion of rodents has been issued by the League of Red Cross Societies.

### Mercenaries die

Aden, Feb 3.—South Yemen forces have killed eight of 15 mercenaries who infiltrated the country, losing two dead.

### River of death

Johannesburg, Feb 3.—Forty Africans are feared dead after a lorry crashed into a river near Bulwer, Natal Province.

## A controlled press is attempting to present North Korea's dictator as the sun of mankind

From Peter Hazelhurst, Tokyo, Feb 3

In terms of building up a personality cult, the somewhat modest Kim Il Sung, leader of North Korea, is attempting to outdo Stalin, Chairman Mao or even Lenin and Marx.

Throwing caution to the wind, Comrade Kim has, in the words of official party organs, set himself up as the greatest revolutionary thinker of all time "without precedent in the East or West, in all ages, the sun of mankind".

The word Communism has been eliminated in official jargon in Pyongyang and replaced by a new officially entitled doctrine—"Kimilsungism".

The state-contrived press declares that hundreds of millions of people have been liberated throughout the world by Kimilsungism and the doctrine has provided North Korea with the most advanced educational system in the world.

In an attempt to deify the dictatorial leader, the latest edition of *The People's Korea* goes on to assert: "The people of the world have extended eternal thanks to the great leader, Comrade Kim Il Sung, reverently looking up to the sun of mankind, to the great

leader who has led hundreds of millions of once oppressed and mistreated people on the globe to take their place in the annals of history. . . . Thanks to the great leader, Comrade Kim Il Sung, the genius of revolution, the outstanding thinker and theoretician and peerless legendary hero. . . ."

Almost every sentence among the hundreds of thousands of words of turgid ideological literature emanating from North Korea is now punctuated with grandiose descriptions of Comrade Kim—"great and respected leader, the peerless, hearted father of the nation, the beloved leader and revolutionary genius".

The *People's Korea* states that the last year fish catch increased under the guidance of his "inspiring thought". Cement production exceeded the set target and industrial production rose by 18 per cent.

In a typical example of jargon used to glorify President Kim, the Central Committee of North Korea's Communist Party commented: "In the northern half of Korea today, the unbreakable political and ideological unity and cohesion of the whole party and whole society with the great leader as the only centre has been

achieved under the banner of Kimilsungism."

"The whole party, the whole country and entire people are firmly united like a monolithic organism breathing, pulsing and acting in accordance with the revolutionary idea of the great leader."

"This is a human historic example of ideological unity at a high point which is without precedent in any other society in the East or West in all ages and which can only be realized in the land of Kimilsungism."

Unlike other communist powers, North Korea has spent huge sums of its precious foreign exchange reserves in recent years to advertise Kim Il Sung's thoughts in American and West European newspapers such as the *Daily Worker*, *The Times* and *The New York Times*, considered hostile to the communist world.

Close observers of North Korea believe the move was not designed to convert the West to Kimilsungism but to reproduce the advertisements in North Korea, where the average person might believe that the western press was stirring editorial prominence to the thoughts of Kim Il Sung.

## Delhi Bill to delay elections

Delhi, Feb 3.—Mrs Indira Gandhi's Government introduced legislation today postponing parliamentary elections for the first time since independence.

The Bill, to be debated by Parliament later this week, extends the present five-year term of the Lower House by one year beyond its expiry date of March 18.

With two thirds of its members absent, the Lower House voted 144 against 25 to allow the Government to introduce the Bill. Parliamentary elections would normally have been held this month.

Mr Erasmo de Sequeira, an independent member, used the introduction of the Bill, he said, it was essential to democracy that the parliamentarians should seek a fresh mandate after expiry of their regular term.

"On March 18, our elected term is over. On that day, we must go to our multitudes and seek from them a fresh lease on our parliamentary life. If we do not do that, this House will lose its legitimacy."

The Lower House has been elected while members of the Upper Chamber, the House of States, are elected by state legislatures.

Mr Gokhale, the Minister of Law and Justice, replied that the Government was acting within the constitution, which provided for the life of Parliament to be extended by a year at a time during a national emergency.

Observers believe that the Government wants to use the year to boost economic development and then go to the polls pointing to economic progress as a benefit of emergency rule. The Indian Government said today that 27 of 54 accusations against the ousted Tamil Nadu state had been accepted for investigation by a commission of inquiry.

## Taking the monotony out of a winter favourite

Katie Stewart

As the temperature drops, so the demand for stewing or casserole cuts of meat increases. You can make as many of these slow cooking meals as you like and quite easily keep them all different.

Casseroles and stews become monotonous only if the flavouring and additions are never varied. Fresh vegetables are very important and those suitable for everyday casseroles are carrot, onion, turnip, celery, sprangoli, leek, finely shredded for a mild onion flavour, celery and skinned tomatoes. A single bay leaf will make a difference to a beef and vegetable stew. Or make a bouquet garni by tying one leaf with a spring of thyme and a few parsley stalks. If you include a twist of fresh orange peel, like they do in Provence, you will get a subtle fresh flavour.

For those who like only the mildest garlic flavour it is best to crush a clove with a little salt to a smooth cream and add to the liquid. In this way the flavours blend. Use the salt part of the seasoning in the recipe, taking care not to add too much. Dry mustard helps to brown and flavour meat. Mix about 1-level teaspoon with the flour and use it to season the pieces before browning. Try the same with curry or chilli powder.

Stir-fry, encase and a little added to the liquid helps to counteract the acidity of tomatoes and wine used in a recipe. A scant ½ teaspoon of dried basil is especially nice in a beef stew when tinned or frozen tomatoes are included and a teaspoon of concentrated tomato purée from a tube will always give a good colour to a gravy.

The liquid stock used is important and if you can possibly use jellied stock from a boiled chicken carcass the gravy will be a wonderful shiny glaze. Use stock or meat cubes in preference to water. Beer, wine and cider can be used as part of the stock and don't forget that a dash of wine vinegar added at the end can give a rich casserole a slight sharpness that is very pleasing.

You can make a beef casserole more interesting by adding whole peeled chestnuts along with the vegetables. They cook in the gravy and look attractive as well as being nice to eat. Or instead of chopping up large onions, use some of the small onions around at the moment and leave them whole. Whole onions give a good flavour to the gravy while retaining their near shape. Even larger onions are nice put in a beef casserole whole and this way they flavour the recipe but can easily not be served to anyone who dislikes them. On serving, however, remember that whole onions are quite hot to eat. Soaked prunes are delicious added to a beef or rabbit casserole during the last hour of cooking. The sweet flavour of prunes combines very well with meat. A small tin of button mushrooms can be a useful addition from the store cupboard and so can dried sweet pepper flakes—sweet green or red peppers or a mixture of both. Soften by allowing them to stand in an equal amount of cold water for 10 minutes before adding.

Gentle slow cooking encourages less expensive cuts of meat to become tender and succulent. The tougher and more fibrous the meat the longer the cooking time needed to tenderize it, so don't put it in a hotter oven or by simmering it more quickly. Choose a thick, heavy casserole that will hold the heat and if it has a good tight fitting lid all the moisture will be retained so you can use a minimum amount of liquid. The result will be a deliciously flavoured casserole that requires little attention once it has been put to cook.

### Reef with prunes

If you use carrots as the main vegetable in this recipe they provide a nice colour contrast to the dark prunes. Both are slightly sweet in flavour and taste very good together.

**Serves 4**

1½ lb lean stewing steak  
seasoned flour  
10oz dripping  
2 medium onions  
6 new carrots  
1 pint beef stock  
salt and freshly milled pepper  
1 tablespoon concentrated tomato purée  
8 prunes, soaked previously

Trim the meat and cut into good size pieces. Roll in seasoned flour and add to the dripping, melted in a frying pan. Fry the meat turning to seal the pieces on all sides and then transfer them to a casserole dish. Add the peeled and finely chopped onion and the scraped and sliced carrots to the casserole.

Stir about 1-tablespoon of the seasoned flour into the hot fat remaining in the frying pan. If necessary, add a little extra fat to absorb the flour. Cook, stirring all the time to brown the flour, then gradually add the stock, stirring with salt and pepper and stir in the tomato purée. Draw the pan off the heat and strain the gravy over the contents of the casserole dish.

Cover the casserole and place in the centre of a slow oven (325 deg F or Gas No 3) and cook for 2½ hours. About an hour before the end of the cooking time add the soaked prunes. If tenderized prunes are used then add about 30 minutes before the end of the cooking time since they cook more quickly.

**Carbonnade**

In a carbonnade beef and onions are cooked in beer and you will find the beer gives a robust flavour to the recipe and a delicious gravy.

**Serves 4**

1½ lb lean stewing steak  
2 large onions  
1 oz dripping  
1 level tablespoon seasoned flour  
1 pint brown ale  
1 pint stock  
1 clove garlic  
freshly milled pepper  
1 tablespoon brown sugar  
1 teaspoon wine vinegar  
slices of French bread  
French mustard

Trim the meat and cut into good-size pieces. Peel and finely slice the onions. Heat the dripping in a frying pan and add the meat, turning to seal the pieces on all sides. Add the onions and cook gently allowing them to soften and brown a little. Dust with flour and stir to blend. Transfer the contents to a casserole and then add the stock, the garlic crushed to a paste with salt, a seasoning of freshly milled pepper, the sugar and vinegar. Cover with a lid and place in the centre of a slow oven (325 deg F or Gas No 3). Cook for 2½ hours or until the meat is tender.

About 45 minutes before cooking is complete, bring the casserole out of the oven. Place a few slices of French bread, spread with French mustard, on top of the meat, as the casserole will allow pressing them into the gravy. Replace the casserole in the oven to finish cooking, this time without the lid to allow the layer of bread to crisp before serving.

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**Oxtail casserole**

Oxtail needs time to cook. I like to simmer it first to partly cook the meat, then to give me a chance to skim off the heavy layer of fat that comes to the surface. The liquid in the cooking is used in the casserole, so no extra stock is needed.

**Serves 4**

1 oxtail, cut in joints  
bouquet garni  
2 large onions  
2 carrots  
1 leek  
10oz dripping  
1 level tablespoon flour  
1 level teaspoon curry powder  
1 tablespoon concentrated tomato purée  
1 pint oxtail stock  
salt and freshly milled pepper  
chopped parsley

Put the oxtail joints in a saucepan, cover with water and bring to a boil. Simmer for 1½ hours, skimming off the fat. Drain the oxtail for two hours in a colander. Wash the oxtail, then cut off the heavy layer of fat and meat on one joint of stock for the casserole.

Peel and slice the onions and carrots. Trim and wash the leek and cut it finely. Place the prepared vegetables in the base of a large casserole. Arrange the oxtail pieces on top. Melt the dripping in a frying pan. Stir the flour and cook gently, stirring from time to time, until a nutty brown colour. Then add the pint of oxtail stock, stir in smoothly. Stir until boiling and season with salt and pepper. Pour the oxtail and vegetables in the casserole. Cover with a lid and cook gently in a slow oven (325 deg F or Gas No 3) for 1½ hours. The oxtail meat should fall away from the bones. Sprinkle with chopped parsley before serving.

**Beef curry casserole**

This recipe has a lot of flavour but the fresh meat is cooked in a delicious gravy.

**Serves 4**

1½ lb lean stewing steak  
10oz butter  
2 medium onions  
2 level tablespoons curry powder  
1 level tablespoon flour  
1 pint beef stock  
1 pint brown ale  
1 rounded tablespoon sweet chutney  
scented jam

1 level tablespoon soft brown sugar  
juice of 1 lemon  
½ level teaspoon salt  
10z sultanas

Trim the meat and cut into neat pieces. Place in a casserole dish and set aside while preparing the curry mixture.

Melt the butter in a saucepan, and peel and chopped onion and fry gently to soften. Stir in the curry powder and shake the pan over the heat for 2 minutes to extract the curry flavour. Stir in the flour, then the stock and bring the boil, stirring all the time. Add sultanas, apricot jam and the sugar. Then stir in lemon juice, salt and the sultanas. Simmer for a few moments and then pour the entire contents of the saucepan over the beef in the casserole.

Cover the casserole with a lid and place in a slow oven (325 deg F or Gas No 3) and cook for 2½ hours or until the meat is quite tender. Serve this recipe with rice to soak up the gravy.















## Law Report February 3 1976

## When time is of the essence in rent review clauses

**Chesapeake Land Development Co Ltd v Messels Service Co**  
**Before Mr Justice Gorman**  
 [Judgment delivered January 29]

The only time limit in a rent review clause in a lease which was of the essence, on the true construction of the clause, was that relating to the lessor's notice. Mr Justice Gorman held that a rent review clause in a lease which was of the essence, on the true construction of the clause, was that relating to the lessor's notice. Mr Justice Gorman held that a rent review clause in a lease which was of the essence, on the true construction of the clause, was that relating to the lessor's notice.

His Lordship said that the case was one of the rent review cases which were argued in the courts in increasing numbers arising from leases granted in the 1950s and 1960s. The lease, dated March 20, 1968, was a lease of a house in Winchester, Hampshire, for a term of 21 years from April 8, 1968, at a rent of £1,000 per annum. The lease contained a rent review clause which provided that the rent should be reviewed every five years. The clause provided that the rent should be reviewed every five years. The clause provided that the rent should be reviewed every five years.

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The lessors duly served their notice on September 5, 1974, some seven months before the review date, suggesting a revised rent of £2,500. The clause provided that the rent should be reviewed every five years. The clause provided that the rent should be reviewed every five years. The clause provided that the rent should be reviewed every five years.

## Court of Appeal

## Notice of work permit to hotel: no estoppel

**In re Suruk Miah**  
**Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Lawton and Lord Justice Bridge**  
 [Judgments delivered January 29]

A statement in a letter from the Department of Employment to a London hotel that a "work permit" had been issued to the hotel was held to be a statement of fact. The court held that the statement was a statement of fact. The court held that the statement was a statement of fact. The court held that the statement was a statement of fact.

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## Chancery Division

high rent. There was no question of the lessor's notice being of the essence. The court held that the lessor's notice was not of the essence. The court held that the lessor's notice was not of the essence. The court held that the lessor's notice was not of the essence.

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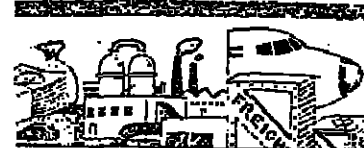
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Commercial and  
Business market

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MINISTRY FOR INDUSTRY AND ENERGY  
SOCIETE NATIONAL SONATRACH

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- ONE LINE 40in. IN DIAMETER
- ONE OUTPUT TERMINAL AT ARZEW
- ONE INPUT TERMINAL AT HASSI-MEL

Copies of the specification S may be obtained from PROJECT GAZO-DUC, 40in HASSI-MEL/ARZEW—PO BOX NO. 3—ARZEW  
 Telephone: 377127 and 376136  
 Telex: 2281 Cazend Arzew

as from 20th January, 1976.

Tenders should be addressed to SONATRACH  
 PROJECT GAZODUC 40" No. 1 and 2  
 HASSI-MEL/ARZEW  
 BP No. 3—ARZEW

to arrive by not later than 1st March, 1976.

Bids will remain valid for ninety (90) days as from the final date for receipt of tenders.

## S.T.E.G.

## INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE

The Tunisian Gas and Electricity Company (S.T.E.G.) is launching an international tender notice to place orders for engineering work to be done at the industrial station, with a total power of approximately 300 MW, equipped with two identical generator sets, in SOUSSE.

Companies wishing to participate may obtain the tender files directly from the head office of S.T.E.G.:

S. T. E. G.,  
 Département de l'Équipement,  
 38 Rue Kemal Ataturk,  
 Tunis (Tunisie).

or, have them sent to them after payment of one hundred Tunisian Dinars or the equivalent in foreign currency, as of the date of publication of this announcement.

The opening of all offers will take place on April 12th, 1976. S.T.E.G. will take into consideration only offers from firms associated with Tunisian companies.

## Business Notices

## University of Dundee

## GRADUATES' COUNCIL

The annual meeting of the Council will be held on the evening of 27th March 1976, at 7.30 p.m. in the hall of the University of Dundee. The meeting will be held in the hall of the University of Dundee. The meeting will be held in the hall of the University of Dundee.

## LONDON BASED

## OIL DISTRIBUTOR

with tank lorry operations, volume discounts on oil, petrol, diesel, kerosene, etc. Good opportunities for expansion.

Write to: The Times, Box 2049 S, The Times.

## BIB ELECTRIC TYPEWRITERS

factory refurbished and repaired. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

Further details 01-537 0797.

## PARTNERS WANTED FOR PROFITABLE

business. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

Further details 01-537 0797.

## Businesses for Sale

£55,000. This well known property is well known property. This well known property is well known property.

Further details 01-537 0797.

## NORTH EAST COAST

For lease or sale. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

Further details 01-537 0797.

## Business Travel

Business travel. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

Further details 01-537 0797.

## Finance &amp; Investment

Finance & investment. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

Further details 01-537 0797.

## Investment Properties

Investment properties. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

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## Business Services

## Representation in the U.K.

Representation in the U.K. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

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## SALES MOTIVATION

Sales motivation. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

Further details 01-537 0797.

## LIMITED COMPANIES

Limited companies. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

Further details 01-537 0797.

## PHONOLITHS LTD.

Phonoliths Ltd. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

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## REDCORATING

Redcorating. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

Further details 01-537 0797.

## LEGAL NOTICES

Legal notices. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

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## PROPERTY WANTED

Property wanted. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

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## Anderton &amp; Son

Anderton & Son. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

Further details 01-537 0797.

## DOCTOR

Doctor. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

Further details 01-537 0797.

## WIMBORNE VILLAGE

Wimborne village. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

Further details 01-537 0797.

## COUNTRY FLATS

Country flats. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

Further details 01-537 0797.

## HOVE LUXURY FLAT

Hove luxury flat. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

Further details 01-537 0797.

## UNUSUAL

Unusual. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

Further details 01-537 0797.

## MODERN

Modern. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

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## ARTIST'S

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## LONDON FLATS

London flats. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

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## KNIGHTSBRIDGE

Knightsbridge. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

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## AVENUE ROAD

Avenue road. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

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## MARBLE ARCH

Marble arch. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

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## Overseas Property

Overseas property. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

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## TANGIER-MOROCCO

Tangier-Morocco. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

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## Building Sites

Building sites. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

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## SEEKING PROPERTY

Seeking property. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount. 50 per cent discount.

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## Business Services

## Representation in the U.K.



















# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

New realism  
in EEC  
anti-trust  
policy, page 19

### sees brighter outlook industry, but gives m warning on jobs

Confidential discussions are taking place which could lead to concerted action by the governments of the European Community to curb growing Russian penetration of major world shipping routes.

The talks between leaders of the European shipping industry and government officials have already brought in heads of some of the more important governments. Mr Wilson, the Prime Minister, and Herr Helmut Schmidt, the German Chancellor, are understood to be sympathetic to the shipowners' case.

European shipowners want EEC governments to take repressive action against Russian and East European shipping lines which pursue a policy of rate-cutting.

Under these powers, the governments would be able to ban the loading and unloading of Eastern block ships if it could be proved that they were offering rates below those offered by western lines, most of which operate through the conference system.

This is because of fears that if the Community's institutions, and in particular the European Commission, were to become involved they would seek to use the occasion to press for a much broader policy on shipping.

Industry leaders fear that such a policy would involve far closer regulation of their affairs, along somewhat similar lines to those practised on internal surface transport.

So far in the discussions, the only country which appears to have expressed strong reservations is the Netherlands. However, the industry is confident that if the British, French and German governments can be persuaded the others will be obliged to fall into line.

One further difficulty, however, is that the Dutch would be required to introduce legislation to enable their government to act whereas the French and British in particular already have extensive powers.

Over the past two years particularly, the Russian merchant fleet has been expanding considerably, and now ranks as the sixth largest in the world.

The merchant shipbuilding programme is continuing with a wide range of specialized ship types being added almost monthly to the fleet from yards in Russia and elsewhere.

Soviet rates are on average between 10 and 15 per cent below those levied by western shipping companies.

But the CBI sounds a caution: Euphoria would be very premature. Any overall recovery is starting from an extremely low level.

There is, however, some basis for modest optimism. The results suggest, the CBI says, that a turning point will be reached in the course of the year. By the third quarter capital spending could be back to the year-before level with a continuing improvement under way.

The CBI is also encouraged by the prospects for exports. The survey shows that a positive "balance" of 19 per cent of companies are more optimistic than four months ago. This is the most encouraging result since October, 1973, the survey says.

As forecast in the previous survey the trend in the value of new export orders has improved and the short-term forecast of the value of new export orders shows a "balance" of 25 per cent of companies expecting an increase—the most favourable figure for more than two years.

For manufacturing industry as a whole, 22 per cent of companies are more optimistic about the general business situation than they were four months ago; 12 per cent are less optimistic. This gives a positive "balance" of 10 per cent.

The improved optimism is almost certainly connected with the better outlook for new orders and output. A positive "balance" of 6 per cent report an increase in the value of total new orders over the past four months; all of last year's comparable "balances" were negative.

Table, page 18

### EEC talks on Soviet shipping threat

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### Threat to children's clothing

Children's shirts, blouses, underwear, skirts and trousers, as well as shoes are expected to be brought within the scheme. At least half of these items according to trade estimates come from the low-price suppliers.

The Consortium, which has now fully agreed virtually the whole scheme, except for a few details to be settled this week, has already reached agreement with the Department that its members may offer imported items as goods to be kept within the 5 per cent price rise benchmark.

But publicity surrounding the scheme could be buying of goods on the list. This has raised doubts about continuity of supplies including those from British manufacturers.

A number of undertakings have been forthcoming from British makers on this problem, although it is likely that some form of wording amounting to an escape clause will have to be written into the final scheme.

Clothing from the low-price countries are subject to a variety of import quota restrictions, and importers are faced by retailers would naturally tend to bring in the better-profit-margin adult clothing rather than children's wear.

### Deloitte chief disagrees on findings at L&C

Commenting on a letter from Mr Robin Atkins, a former audit manager at Harmond Banner, explaining the circumstances of his resignation from the firm when it gave an unqualified approval to L & C's 1973 accounts, he said: "The partner takes the final responsibility for signing the accounts. Mr Atkins found this impossible to accept. He was not asked to sign a thing."

In their report the two inspectors say Mr Plummer, the partner who took the ultimate decision on the accounts, was aware that the cash position of A & D (L & C's banking subsidiary) was being inflated by at least £15m. "Nevertheless," he signed unqualified audit reports on the accounts of A & D and L & C. He seemed unaware of the implications of this."

Mr Smith went on to say yesterday that the shortcomings in the auditors' investigations of L & C's position prior to the takeover of the accounts were less likely to be repeated in a non-banking company. Secondary banks, he said, had "strange peculiarities all of their own". But the accounting criticisms made in this response by the Department of Trade report and implications of the recent out of court settlement of nearly £300,000 made by the leading accountants, Arthur Young, in the Trevelyan case is unlikely to draw any official response from the Institute of Chartered Accountants in the near future.

The Secretary of the Institute's Ethics Committee said yesterday that the issues raised by Mr Atkins's case, whether an auditor has primary responsibility to the public (creditors and depositors, who rely on accounts for information about a company) or to his partner and firm with whose professional opinion he may disagree was a "grey area."

It appears, too, that the Institute never took action against a member for failing to perform his duties properly until negligence has been proved in court. This appears to be at variance with the practice established in most other professional bodies that there might be, for example, the Institute of Actuaries temporarily suspended a member.

Meanwhile, the Department of Trade indicated yesterday that it could not alter the contents of the report, since the investigation was undertaken by two independent inspectors.

Hardly Baird, the first of two Department of Trade reports dealing with Dr Wallersteiner's share ownership of Harley Baird is expected to be published today.

### Consortium save Norton factory

The threatened Norton Villiers motor cycle factory in Wolverhampton has been saved. A consortium, headed by Mr Ronald Ticombe, an Australian businessman in oil, and including Lord Hesketh, has raised the £4m needed to buy the Marston Road factory.

A contract is being drawn up by Mr Kenneth Morgan, the liquidator, and this will go to Mr Ticombe's lawyers. Once legal formalities have been completed, motor cycle production will restart, but not until March at the earliest.

The news will be given to the 800 workers who have been occupying the plant for over five months, at a meeting today. However, they will also be told there will not be jobs for everyone. The majority will be taken over by the new owners, but the Norton Commando motor cycle and industrial engines.

Then, after an 18-month period, the "Wolf" motorcycle—the machine with the revolutionary engine to beat the Japanese competition—will start full production.

Mr Ticombe has stated that an offer has been made which is confirmed by the liquidator, but he will not reveal the money is coming from. The company will be known as the British Norton Partnership, and the board will include four worker-directors.

### Fed may tighten its monetary policies

From Frank Vogl Washington, Feb 3

Dr Arthur Burns, chairman of the Federal Reserve System, said today that the Fed may tighten its monetary policies this year.

He told Congressmen that the Fed was to adjust modestly its 1976 target for the money supply to order the Fed greater room to tighten policy if it wished. The target ranges "cannot be maintained indefinitely without running a serious risk of releasing new inflationary pressures."

The Fed chairman told the banking committee of the House of Representatives that Fed policy should be adequate to sustain a strengthening of the economy and to ensure that there was no serious overcrowding in financial markets.

He said, however, that the Fed had to be aware of signs of a troublesome resurgence of inflation.

The new target range for M1 growth for 1976 was 4 per cent to 7 per cent, compared with 7 per cent to 9 per cent in 1975. Dr Burns said, the target ranges for M2 and M3 are unchanged for the moment at 7 per cent to 10 per cent and 9 per cent to 12 per cent respectively.

It is improbable that this modest change will have an immediate impact on market interest rate levels, and Dr Burns did not suggest that any tightening of Fed policies was planned immediately.

He stressed, however, that inflation remained the gravest problem. A similar view was put to the House budget committee today by Mr William Simon, the Secretary of the Treasury, who noted that the danger of new inflation was great.

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### seas loans boost reserves by £668m

Foreign loans, in the sum from the Monetary Fund, official reserves at 25 per cent to 30 per cent.

of £1,356m the nation's gold exchange holdings. This follows a long period of several months when the reserves had fallen to a level for three years.

uary's large injection of money into the economy has helped to boost the reserves by £668m from the £688m of the last year. The IMF is not the second of these £700m from the central borrowing facilities drawn, but it transferred to the reserves with only the £100m of the IMF's reserves also a further £160m of loans to British public bodies, including the European Coal and Community and the Investment Bank.

There was still no sign of the second £100m in the IMF's reserves, but there is still some money has been made on that loan's own. Difficulties may prevent making the loan was agreed last year.

deadline for transfer.

### Grindlays denies top changes

By Our Banking Correspondent

Reports that top level board changes are being planned at Grindlays Bank were vigorously denied by Lord Aldington, the chairman, yesterday.

The reports arose after a visit to New York last month by Lord Aldington, which in turn followed revelations that Brands, Grindlays merchant bank subsidiary, was involved in syndicated Eurodollar loan to the troubled Colocotronis shipping group.

Lord Aldington categorically rejected suggestions that his visit to New York was to discuss with First National City Bank his forthcoming resignation in favour of Mr Nigel Robson, a director of Grindlays.

Chitbank, of which Lord Aldington is a director, recently enlarged its shareholding in Grindlays from 40 to 48 per cent in the wake of heavy provisions by Brands, mainly as a result of property lending.

Lord Aldington said that he went to New York for the regular January board meeting of Chitbank. "The subject of Colocotronis and my resignation was not one of my reasons for going."

"There is no pressure from Chitbank on me to resign, and I have no intention of offering my resignation to my colleagues now or at the annual meeting," he said. He emphasized that Brands' loans to Colocotronis were well covered by the value of the assets against which the loans were made.

### Leyland to sign on 600 more

Leyland is to recruit another 600 manual workers for its car factories at Cowley and Abingdon because of plans to increase production.

The jobs are expected to be filled within the next two months. About 500 of the new jobs will be at the two Cowley factories.

A spokesman said the recruitment was really "a top priority exercise" and should be examined against the fact that since January, 1974, about 4,500 people had left the three factories, and a natural wastage rate of 1,200 a year.

In January, 1974, Leyland had 27,000 employees at Oxford and Abingdon. It now has 22,000.

Fiat plea to EEC, page 18

### Giro credit card likely

Moves to ban National Giro from issuing credit cards were rejected by the House of Commons yesterday. Opposition amendment to that effect was lost in the second committee sitting of the Post Office Banking Services Bill.

Giro is now in talks with one of the principal credit card organizations in the country, but it is unlikely to reach any decision quickly.

Of more pressing concern to Giro, once it gets the formal go-ahead to enter competitive banking, is the need to offer a cheque guarantee card.

To some extent, however, Giro will be circumscribed by developments within the European Giro. It is felt that it would be foolish to develop a cheque guarantee card service which is not compatible with that of the European systems.

### Engine deal with Volkswagen agreed in Detroit

From Our US Economics Correspondent Washington, Feb 3

Chrysler Corporation said today that it had reached an agreement in principle with Volkswagen to buy up to 300,000 engines and 120,000 axles for use in the planned small car which Chrysler will build in the United States.

The agreement may well produce problems for Chrysler's management with the company's trade unions in both the United States and in Britain.

Unemployment is still very heavy in Detroit and the unions there have been exerting pressure on Chrysler to ensure that the company's planned small car is fully produced in this country.

### UK RESERVES

The following are the figures for the United Kingdom's official reserves, issued by the Treasury yesterday:

End of period	£m	Change in month
1971	6,582	2,526*
1972	5,646	2,404
1973	6,476	2,787
1974	6,789	2,830
Aug	6,833	3,344
Jan	6,833	2,870
Feb	7,064	2,908
March	7,117	2,962
April	7,132	3,032
May	6,481	2,802
June	6,198	2,837
July	6,258	2,906
Aug	6,000	2,845
Sept	5,859	2,887
Oct	5,713	2,749
Nov	5,606	2,775
Dec	5,429	2,683
1975	6,785	3,344
Jan	6,785	3,344

\* Standing figures from 1971 to May 1972 valued at the Smithsonian parity rate of \$2.0571, and from June 1972 at the closing rate on the last day of the period. Gold and SDRs valued at their dollar par at the time.

### EEC investigates European air fare rates

From David Cross Brussels, Feb 3

A preliminary enquiry has been launched by the EEC's competition department into European air fares, to discover whether airlines have been abusing the Community's strict anti-trust rules.

The investigation, by a group of commission trust-busters, will be trying to find out why air fares vary widely over the same routes, and why charges for certain routes are higher than for most other journeys.

The commission's case can only cover air fares for routes within the Community, but the activities of foreign operators with aircraft flying the Community's territory will also be included in addition to information from the airlines themselves, the officials will be seeking the views of various users, including passenger and travel agency representatives.

A new EEC realism, page 19

### Backlog for PO plea on pension deficit

By Ronald Emiler

A claim by the Post Office that the Government should fund £777m of the corporation's huge staff superannuation fund deficit was given support yesterday by the Commons Select Committee on Nationalized Industries.

In its report on the Letter post services, the committee says: "The Government should give sympathetic consideration to relieving the Post Office in some way of the financial burden of the pre-1969 pension fund deficit."

The report outlines the difficulties which have beset the fund since the Post Office was incorporated in 1969. Before its incorporation in October, 1969, Post Office staff were regarded as civil servants and their pensions were paid for through parliamentary votes.

After the change the Treasury arranged to pay the trustees of the new superannuation fund £45m annually for 25 years for the assumed value of the Consols held by the fund.

Because of inflation and the decline in the cash value of Consols, says the committee, "the funding mechanism for pre-incorporation liabilities is now seen to have been hopelessly inadequate."

At the last audit, which was completed in July, 1974, the fund was shown to have a deficit of £1,092m at the end of September, 1974.

In a memorandum to the committee, the trustees say that a full actuarial valuation of the present deficit is due at the end of next month and will be available by the end of the year.

In its latest annual report the Post Office said that "a fair and favourable decision is needed and needed quickly on the funding of the present deficit and in November the Government promised to examine its possible liability for the pre-1969 deficit."

The Select Committee noted there were two ways of making it good. The £777m could be paid for by the public in the form of higher charges, or it could be met by the Government under the method favoured by the Post Office, the Post Office Users' Council and the Union of Post Office Workers.

### How the markets moved

The Times index: 1639.30 -0.91  
The FT index: 409.5 -2.8

Rises	Falls
Anglowest 2p to 22p	Ass Port Cement 3p to 12p
Bradford Mines 1p to 15p	Brit Drilling 1p to 18p
Burrell 3p to 8p	Comindia 3p to 15p
Brit Am Tob 2p to 26p	Distillers 2p to 14p
Delsen 2p to 29p	Grindlays Hldgs 2p to 36p
Grindlays Hldgs 2p to 29p	GECC 2p to 29p
ICI 1p to 27p	Mariner Hld 4p to 40p
EMI 2p to 24p	
	Johnson Mat 5p to 37p
	MTM Hldgs 10p to 22p
	Ocean Trans 43p to 14p
	Shell 4p to 38p
	Unilever 2p to 10p
	Wm Watson 1p to 18p

### THE POUND

Rank	buys	Rank	sell
1	1.67	1	1.61
2	38.25	2	36.25
3	38.25	3	38.25
4	2.07	4	2.02
5	12.75	5	12.75
6	8.00	6	7.75
7	9.25	7	8.95
8	5.35	8	5.15
9	80.00	9	75.00
10	10.40	10	10.00
11	1775.00	11	1710.00
12	640.00	12	615.00
13	5.50	13	5.30
14	11.45	14	11.10
15	69.00	15	60.00
16	2.24	16	2.00
17	125.00	17	119.50
18	9.05	18	8.75
19	5.55	19	5.15
20	2.07	20	1.92
21	40.50	21	37.00

### BAGGERIDGE BRICK COMPANY LIMITED

The Thirty-second Annual General Meeting of Baggeridge Brick Company Limited was held on 3rd February at the Midland Hotel, Birmingham. The following is the statement by the Chairman, The Hon. P. A. Ward, circulated with the Report and Accounts.

PROFIT AND DIVIDEND

The profit before tax for the year ended 30th September, 1975, totalled £250,102 compared with £320,489 last year, and profits after tax amounted to £107,733 compared with £150,540.

The Directors recommend a dividend of 7.6013%.

RESULTS FOR THE YEAR

The Company has experienced a difficult year. Competition for available trade continues to be intense. This, together with ever increasing production costs, and in particular the continuing rise in the price of butane, has inevitably reduced profit margins.

In my last year's Statement I expressed the hope that there might be a recovery in profits in the second half of the year and, this, I am pleased to say, has been achieved. During the summer and autumn there was an improvement in trading which enabled our stocks of bricks to be very substantially reduced.

GOOD DEMAND FOR BRICKS CONTINUES

All indications are that trading conditions will continue to be extremely difficult in 1976 but it is not expected that there will be any further deterioration in profits. Our three works produce high class blue and red engineering bricks as well as an attractive range of facing bricks, for all of which there is a present a good demand. The kiln developments during the past year will also benefit the Company's results. The condition of the Baggeridge kilns has been greatly improved by work carried out last year, and £25,000 has been charged in respect of this against the provision for deferred repairs. At Hartlebury the building of another new kiln is being completed.

As will be seen from the Directors' Report, Mr C. H. S. Johnson will be retiring as a Director after 19 years association with the Company. I would like to express on behalf of my colleagues and shareholders our sincere appreciation for his contribution towards the Company's development and growth.

The shareholders I am sure, will wish me to express special thanks to all employed in the Company for the extremely hard work they have done in the past year.

The Report and Accounts were adopted.

### Hill Samuel Base Rate

Hill Samuel & Co. Limited announce that with effect from today, Wednesday, February 4, 1976, their Base Rate for lending will be reduced from 10 1/2 per cent to 10 per cent per annum. Interest payable under the Bank's Demand Deposit Scheme on sums of £1,000 up to £100,000 will be at the rate of 7 1/2 per cent per annum.

Hill Samuel & Co. Ltd  
100 Wood Street  
London EC2P 2AJ  
Telephone: 01-628 6011

### Portugal 'seeking loan'

Bonn, Feb 3.—Reports circulating here today suggested that Portugal was seeking a loan of \$200m to \$300m from Germany against the security of gold.

Kerr Hare District General arrives in Lisbon tomorrow for a two-day visit in which he is expected to discuss credits to aid the Portuguese economy—AP-Dow Jones.

### On other pages

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## Fiat chief presses Community for curbs on motor imports

From Clifford Webb  
Amsterdam, Feb 3

Signor Umberto Agnelli, managing director of Fiat, today warned Italy's partners in the EEC that they could not afford to delay much longer on the controversial question of restricting motor imports from producers outside the Community.

He told a press conference here that either these importers had to impose self-restraint or the EEC must take action to impose import controls. This is a problem which is already being tackled in the near future, he added.

Italy has already taken unilateral action which restricts Japanese car imports to a nominal 1,000 a year.

Signor Agnelli was replying to a question about the "alarming growth" of car imports from Poland and Russia. Without actually identifying them, he left no doubt that he was particularly worried about the inroads being made by the Polski Fiat and the Russian Lada, both of which are based on Fiat designs.

He stopped short of an outright allegation that East European cars were being "dumped" in the Community — a claim made by British motor manufacturers — but in-

sisted that these countries were exporting cars at prices which could not be justified by any of the criteria which applied in an open economy.

Signor Agnelli also criticized the growing divisions emerging in the EEC, particularly between the so-called poor south and the affluent north. "To accept such a prospect would be tantamount to acknowledging the defeat of the cultural and liberal values that have over the past 30 years offered us an image of a united Europe as the essential environment for the growth of a society having private enterprise and market economy among its basic tenets."

## Protest over Leyland's use of state help

By Colin Ivermee

Money voted to help British Leyland had gone to a refrigeration company, nothing to do with motor cars, Mr Robin Maxwell-Hyslop, Conservative MP for Tiverton, said yesterday.

He told the Commons Standing Committee considering the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Bill that £1,400m was voted by the Commons through the National Enterprise Board under Lord Ryder to help British Leyland.

Of that money £2.5m had been passed to Prestcold Refrigeration Division, a British Leyland subsidiary and £500,000 had quickly, and unnecessarily, been spent on buying up a distributor of refrigerators and the remaining £2m was to be paid for a business in Maidstone.

It was an example, he said, of money voted for one *de facto* nationalized industry being used for a completely different purpose, and giving an artificial

competitive power to bidding against the private sector in ways of which Parliament knew nothing.

Mr Maxwell-Hyslop was supporting Mr Tom King, an Opposition spokesman on industry and Conservative MP for Bridwater, who moved an amendment seeking to restrict the activities of the corporations to be set up to run the aircraft and shipbuilding industries if the Bill becomes law.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, Minister of State for Industry said he could not concede that the corporations should not have the right to diversify. "We do not seek to give the corporations advantages which they would not possess if they were not corporations."

The amendment was defeated by 15 votes to 11, a government majority of four. The committee approved Clause 3 (Activities and powers of the corporations) the relevant clause was approved.

## £9m turbine deal for C.A. Parsons

By Roger Vielvoys

C. Parsons, part of the Raytheon Parsons group, is to supply the main parts of a 680 megawatt turbine generator for a nuclear power station being built in Korea by the Canadians.

The order is likely to be worth £9m to Parsons. The order has been won by Howden Parsons of Ontario, which is 49 per cent owned by Raytheon Parsons and 51 per cent by Howden of Glasgow.

Parsons factories in the north east will build the generator and all the turbine shafts and blades.

The Canadian company will manufacture the turbine casings and auxiliary equipment and supervise the erection and commissioning of the machine in Korea.

It is thought that C. A. Parsons' share of the work, worth about £5m, is just over half the value of the total contract.

The Korean station at Wolsung near Taegu is to be equipped with a CANDU type reactor supplied by Atomic Energy of Canada.

With the United Kingdom market for power station equipment started off by the continuing fall in demand for electricity, the two manufacturing groups are looking overseas for orders.

Two weeks ago GEC Turbine Generators signed a £13m order for a 380 MW turbine generator for the next stage of Calgary Power's Sundance power station.

The only United Kingdom orders in the offing for the companies are from two proposed nuclear plants in England and Scotland.

C. A. Parsons says it has sufficient work, mostly for export, to keep its workforce occupied over the next two years, but after this there are gaps.

## CBI 59th industrial trends survey: Jan 1976

Total trends

- Are you short, or long, of stock? (How many months ago about the general business situation in your industry?)
- Do you expect to experience sales or production expansion in the next twelve months? (How many months ago about the general business situation in your industry?)
- Is your present level of output below capacity? (If so, are you working below a satisfactory full rate of operation?)

Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past four months, and what are the expected trends for the next four months, with regard to:

- Number of employees
- Value of total new orders
- Value of output
- Stocks of: a. new materials and brought in supplies; b. finished goods
- Average cost per unit of output
- Average price at which domestic orders are booked

What factors are likely to limit your output over the next four months? Please list the most important factor or factors.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Benefits of a petrol rationing scheme

From Mr Michael Connock

Sir, It seems to me that there is a snag in the employment-creating scheme of Mr Richard Layard (*Business News*, January 28), more serious than the one which he himself acknowledges. Mr Layard claims that a £10 government subsidy which saves the job of a man on £60 a week will bring out at least an extra £50 of output, since this man's employer would not retain him if he was not, producing at least his net cost (£60 minus £10). Again this extra output Mr Layard sets additional demand of only £13 a week (difference between the man's after-tax pay of £44 and his unemployment benefit of £31).

But will there really be an increase in output? The man remaining in Firm A thanks to the subsidy will produce goods which will presumably be sold to people who might otherwise have bought similar goods from Firm B. Production in Firm B will then be less than it might otherwise have been. To take an only too topical example, keeping Chrysler alive will reduce the demand for British Leyland cars.

So, as not to seem wholly negative, may I propose an alternative scheme? How

about introducing petrol rationing on a per-car basis (same for Minis as for Jaguars)? This would have numerous advantages. It would cut oil imports and thus strengthen the balance of payments without risk of retaliation such as would be involved with import quotas on manufactures. It would direct demand to British goods in general, and in particular to small firms (the big ones would then be freed for export); it would also reduce pollution and congestion, and promote social equality, and conserve real resources for future generations.

There would be a loss of government revenue from the petrol excise tax, which would, however, be at least partly made up by increased tax takings accruing automatically from rising incomes. Some people would be inconvenienced, and the parking wardens would have to restrain as bus conductors; but every medicine has its side-effects.

Yours sincerely,  
MICHAEL CONNOCK,  
Senior Lecturer in Economics  
Middlesex Polytechnic, Social Science,  
The Burroughs,  
Hendon,  
London, NW4 4BT.  
January 25.

### Diminishing rewards of promotion

From Mr John Davis

Sir, Between 1960 and 1970, despite several promotions, I, deputy divisional manager, chairman and managing director, I had the strange feeling that I was no better off financially. At the time I assumed that it was just one of many illusions. With the publication of the Royal Commission Report I now know that it is no illusion; the financial reward for promotion was not as great as I had assumed.

My contemporaries who managed not to get promoted, I proved their real income, about 25 per cent over the period.

That is what is meant by management incentives in Great Britain.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN DAVIS,  
Wilton Corner,  
10 Grenfell Road,  
Beaconsfield,  
Buckinghamshire,  
January 30.

### Optimum size

From Mr J. W. Dodd

Sir, When reading press reports and listening to current affairs talks, one gets the impression that the most remarkable successes in the export market both with the EEC and with the rest of the world, are achieved by small and medium sized firms.

Reflecting on this, one wonders if there is an optimum in the size of firms beyond which efficiency, competitiveness and harmony in industrial relations begin to deteriorate.

I should be interested to read comments actively engaged in industry whether this is so and what conclusions can be drawn from this.

Yours faithfully,  
J. W. DODD,  
14 The Elms,  
Colyton,  
Devon.

### Which rules?

From Mr M. C. Baker

Sir, Can any of your readers suggest what conclusions should be drawn from the almost simultaneous decision by our national steel company to pay men for unnecessary overtime working and the Government's decision, which your report today, to tighten rescue rules for companies in the private sector?

Yours faithfully,  
M. C. BAKER,  
Crossway House,  
Cherewasing,  
Sevenoaks,  
Kent.  
January 28.

### Easing the burden of small businesses

From Mr David Mitchell

Conservative MP for Easington

Sir, The reported statement by Lord Melchett in your column (January 28) that "the Government will not hesitate to introduce measures designed to help the (small firm) sector" will strike many readers, especially those in touch with small firms, as bizarre.

The noble lord may feel satisfied that it is not necessary to take action but there can be few who share his view. Indeed only two days later, unopposed by the Government, the House of Commons carried a resolution calling for "the alleviation of taxation and other burdens which threaten the existence of the small independent business".

Bankruptcy figures, which are an all-time record, underline the urgency of the situation, and to this must be added the unrecorded number who are simply giving up the unequal struggle. Perhaps worse for Britain's economic future are the many firms now deliberately reducing their activity and cutting investment programmes in an effort to avoid enlarging

their liability to capital taxes which could not be met without the sale or break-up of their business.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID MITCHELL,  
House of Commons,  
February 2.

From Mr Richard Tracey  
Sir, Your report on the remarks of Lord Melchett to small companies prove, I'm afraid, that he is rather a fledgeling government spokesman on the subject.

I suspect I speak for the majority of small companies when I say that what he sees as "hysterical" cries from this sector are genuine expressions of hurt at the hands of the Labour Government.

If I may give him my reasonable, unhysterical and unpollitic requests, I ask: reduce taxation and reinstate incentive, do away with the flood of forms to fill in, clear up the collection of VAT and give small businessmen a fair rating and National Insurance system.

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD TRACEY,  
Business Expansion Ltd.,  
35 Doves Street,  
London W1X 3RA.  
January 29.

## BSC seeks 1,200 cut in Corby workforce

By Peter Hill

Industrial Correspondent  
Trade union leaders have been told by the British Steel Corporation that it will want to reduce its labour force at its Corby plant by about 1,200 workers over the next two years.

Since the agreement between the BSC and the TUC steel industry committee last autumn to discuss reductions in manning levels at divisional and plant level, meetings have been taking place between management of the tubes division and unions.

The Corby redundancies push the total so far disclosed to trade unions by the BSC to 8,000. Some 4,500 jobs are expected to disappear in Scotland and a further 2,300 in the special steel division concentrated in the Sheffield area.

In the present recession, the tubes sector has not been so badly hit as other sectors of the BSC's product range. The

need for immediate economies at Corby is not, therefore, as great as in other areas.

But in talks with unions at Corby the BSC has stressed the importance of improving performance in order to secure future trading prospects for the works. Particular attention was paid to the number of people needed to operate at high output levels.

The present workforce at Corby is 12,200, and the BSC is planning on the basis of a labour force of just over 11,000 in two years' time to meet production targets.

Further discussions are taking place with trade unions as part of the efforts to reduce manning levels and cut the BSC's wage cost overheads.

Later this week the BSC is expected to disclose the scale of cuts it would like to see at the Scunthorpe works of the general steel division and also the tubes division works at Stanton.

### ICL spells out new target

By Kenneth Owen

Technology Correspondent  
International Computers Ltd, Britain's main computer manufacturer, has decided not to mount a direct attack on the very small end of the computer market, where the American-owned International Business Machines has been gaining significant orders for its System 32 machine.

This emerged yesterday at the official announcement of ICL's new 2903 Model 20 machine, which costs from £25,000 to £45,000 depending on the facilities provided. Details of the new computer were reported in *The Times* yesterday.

### Britain gets £3m EEC regional aid

From Michael Hornsby

Brussels, Feb 3

Britain is to get £3m out of total grants of £9m in the first allocation from the EEC's regional fund for 1976. The only other beneficiary is Italy.

The reason for this being that other countries have been slower to put in claims and will not benefit until later in the year.

In 1975 Britain received £35.3m. The only member state which got more than Britain was again Italy, with around £50m.

Britain's first allocation this year will help finance 47 industrial and infrastructure projects.

Barclays Bank (London and International) Limited  
has changed its name to  
**BARCLAYS MERCHANT BANK LIMITED**  
and its address to Dashwood House,  
69 Old Broad Street, London EC2P 2EE.

Total assets exceed £700,000,000. Principal services: acceptance credits, corporate financial advice, deposits, mergers and acquisitions, new issues and flotations, term loans in sterling and eurocurrency.

BARCLAYS MERCHANT BANK LIMITED (TELEPHONE 01-600 9234, TELEX 8812124) ALSO HAS OFFICES IN BIRMINGHAM, BRISTOL, LEEDS, LUTON, MANCHESTER AND NOTTINGHAM.











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**PROGMORTON**  
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Washington, Feb. 3.—A shipment of 520,000 bushels of United States soybeans inspected for export to Soviet Union last week stemmed from a small contract adjustment arranged several months ago, informed trade sources said.

The shipment is not the result of any switching to United States soybeans by the Soviet Union, since 1.5 million tonnes of Brazilian soybeans sold to the Soviet Union this season, they added.

Last week's inspected shipment to Russia represents the first known export of United States soybeans to that country this season.

It was not deemed necessary to

Eurobond prices (midday indicators)		
\$ STRAIGHTS		
	Bid	Offer
AIDC 10% 1981	100 1/2	101 1/2
Air France 9% 1982	102	103
Airseas 9% 1983	102 1/2	103 1/2
AEG 9% 1982	102 1/2	103 1/2
Asahi 8 1/2% 1982	103 1/2	104 1/2
Asahi 9% 1982	103 1/2	104 1/2
BCE 9% 1982	103 1/2	104 1/2
Broken Hill 9% 1981	100 1/2	101 1/2
Canada 9% 1982	101 1/2	102 1/2
Chrysler 9% 1982	101 1/2	102 1/2
Huntington 7% 1987	91 1/2	92 1/2
Indco 9% 1982	101 1/2	102 1/2
CECA 9% 1982	100 1/2	101 1/2
Chiron 9% 1980	100 1/2	101 1/2
Conoco 9% 1982	101 1/2	102 1/2
Conoco 8 1/2% 1984	99	100
Enco 9% 1982	101 1/2	102 1/2
CSR 9% 1980	101	102 1/2

Escm 10% 1984	101	102
Escm 10% 1985	99	99
Escm 10% 1986	97	96
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First Chicago 7 1981	97	94
Gold 10% 1985	99	99
Gold 10% 1986	99	99
Gold and Western 8% 1980	101	102
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Internat Unit 8% 1983	99	98
National Coal Board 8%	97	98
New Zealand 9 1980	101	102
New Zealand 9 1981	101	102
Nippon 10% 1980	101	102
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Standard Oil 8% 2039	101	102
Standard Oil 8% 2040	101	102
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Standard Oil 8% 2051	101	102
Standard Oil 8% 2052	101	102
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Standard Oil 8% 2054	101	102
Standard Oil 8% 2055	101	102
Standard Oil 8% 2056	101	102
Standard Oil 8% 2057	101	102
Standard Oil 8% 2058	101	102
Standard Oil 8% 2059	101	102
Standard Oil 8% 2060	101	102
Standard Oil 8% 2061	101	102
Standard Oil 8% 2062	101	102

[illegible]

of the Unisec Group of South Africa eased from R8.17m to R7.09m, but earnings a share rose from 13.6c to 14.1c thanks to earnings of partly owned subsidiaries. The dividend is again 10c. The board says that the two year's results are not

	Last Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div'n	Yld %	P/E
es	34	—	3.0	8.8	9.0
	103	+1	7.5	7.3	5.5
	145	—	4.9	3.4	9.7
	23	—	0.9	4.0	57
S	65	—	12.0	18.5	—
	62	—	4.5	7.3	12.0

# Exchange

Light profit-taking on the foreign exchanges yesterday after the announcement of the Comenacis intervention on Monday enabled sterling and the dollar to improve slightly.

Dealers said conditions were less than bullish with rates less attractive than on previous days. Sterling finished 15 points ease against the dollar, at \$2,0280, having spent the session alternating between 15 and 20 points below \$2,0300. The pound made modest headway, however, in terms of the dollar, with the "old" dollar "devaluation" improved from 30.2 to 30.1 per cent.

The dollar firmed from 2.5675 to 2.5725 against the mark, notwithstanding the fact that the increased trade surplus in December.

French francs were finally unchanged at 4.4375 after estimated sales of some \$40m by the Bank of France to support its currency.

Swiss francs eased from 2.5880 to 2.5900 against the United States dollar, with gold guilders from 12.6570 to 12.6585.

The Italian lire ended at 763.00, compared with 762.50 overnight. The yen advanced 10 points, to close in London at \$31.25.

	Yen rates (day's range)	Dollar rates (close)
New York	32.17-32.18	February 3
Montreal	21.62-21.63	31.87-32.02
Amsterdam	2.25-2.26	32.00-32.01
Brussels	79.00-80	78.2-78.3
London	1.44-1.45	79.25-79.28
Frankfurt	5.39-5.40	3.21-3.22
Lisbon	39.40-40	32.15-32.16
Madrid	21.18-21.19	31.95-32.00
Paris	132.0-132.1	126.8-126.9
Oslo	21.18-21.19	11.16-11.17
Porto	9.05-9.06	9.04-9.05
Stockholm	8.85-8.86	61.05-61.06
Tokyo	410-112	61.3-130
Vienna	36.50-37.00	37.00-37.01
Zurich	8.21-8.22	8.21-8.22

Source: Reuters. Dollar rates since Dec. 31, 1972.  
 200 yen equals 1 dollar; 100 francs equals 1 franc.

Amsterdam	15-16c prem	80-90c prem
Amsterdam	3c-4c prem	8c-9c prem
Brussels	16c prem	60-65c prem
	60c disc	
Copenhagen	5-6c prem	14-15c prem
Frankfurt	3c-4c prem	3c prem
Lisbon	30-35c disc	25-30c prem
	6c disc	
Madrid	170-190c disc	50-60c disc
Milan	31c prem	5-10c prem
	1c disc	
Oslo	8c-9c prem	16-17c prem
Paris	1-2c prem	5c-6c prem
Stockholm	3c-4c prem	9-10c prem
Vancouver	10-12c prem	80-90c prem
Zurich	+3c prem	15-16c prem
Canadian	dollar rate (against US dollar),	
	91.00-91.50	
Bank of Canada deposits (90) call	5c-5c seven	
days, 4c-4c	one month, 5-5c	three months,
6c-6c	six months, 6c-6c	

Sovereigns: old, 543.50-54.50 (221.50-23.00)  
(new, 543-55 (21.25-22.25); (International).

The supply and demand for credit was expected to be roughly in balance in the discount market yesterday. In fact, it subsequently seemed that there was a slight surplus on the day. Nevertheless, conditions deteriorated, becoming rather patchy by early afternoon.

Eventually, the authorities found it necessary to give help on a moderate scale, buying Treasury bills directly from the houses.

Rates had been tentatively around 93 per cent right at the outset, but money was soon coming at 94 and then 82 per cent by midday. But credit ran dry in the afternoon.

Final balances were obtained in the area of 83 to 92 per cent.

but rates eased to 9 3/16 to 9 1/2 per cent, which is discounting the likelihood of another quarter-point cut in the MLR to bring it down to 9 1/2 per cent on Friday. 'There was also quite a good business in "eligible" bank bills all trading at markedly lower rates.

**Notes**

**Bank of England Minimum Leading Rate 10%**  
Bank of England 10% 17/10

**Clearing Bank Rate 10%**  
Clearing Bank London 10% 17/10

**Overnight Open: Close**  
Week Fixed: 9% 9 1/2

**Treasury Bills (Days)**

1 month	9%	3 months	9 1/2%
2 months	9%	4 months	9 1/2%
3 months	9%	5 months	9 1/2%

**Prime Bank Bills (Days) Trades (Days)**

1 month	8 1/2%	3 months	10%
2 months	8 1/2%	4 months	10%
3 months	8 1/2%	5 months	10%
4 months	8 1/2%	6 months	10%
5 months	8 1/2%		
6 months	8 1/2%		

**Local Authorities' Bonds**

1 month	10-10 1/2%	7 months	10-10 1/2%
2 months	10-10 1/2%	8 months	10-10 1/2%
3 months	10-10 1/2%	9 months	10-10 1/2%
4 months	10-10 1/2%	10 months	10-10 1/2%
5 months	10-10 1/2%	11 months	10-10 1/2%
6 months	10-10 1/2%	12 months	10-10 1/2%

**Securities: Mkt. (CD Rate)**

1 month	8 1/2%	6 months	9 1/2%
2 months	8 1/2%		

Interbank Market (%)		
Overnight: Open \$9-3/4		Close \$9-3/4
1 week \$9-3/4		6 months \$9-3/4
1 month \$9-3/4		9 months \$9-3/4
3 months \$9-3/4		12 months \$9-3/4
First Class Finance Bureau (Mkt. Rate):		
3 months 10		6 months 10
Finance House Base Rate 11 1/2		

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Recent Issues	Closing price
Bowing C.T. 10% Cvt (250)	125
Essex Vtr 5% (250)	120 1/2
Lee Tolley Vtr 5% Rd Pl (1)	120 1/2
Treasury 5 1/2% A 1980 (250)	120 1/2
Lat-lat	..

Issue price in parentheses. \* Ex dividend.  
 † Issued by tender. ‡ XII paid. a £45 paid. b £10  
 paid. c £30 paid. f £50 paid. g \$90 paid. h £25 paid.  
 i £40 paid.

New York, Feb. 3.—Issues were trading higher at the close of trading on the New York Stock Exchange today, with the Dow Jones average closed up 1.26 points to 372.61.

Drawing issues outdistanced advances by about 500 to about 1,000.

Volume totalled 34,080,000 shares, compared with 24,000,000 yesterday.

One said some selling was prompted by the refusal so far of the New York banks to follow the point prime rate cut to 61 per cent announced last Friday by the National City Bank.

He added that some continuing interest was fostered by the fact that the London market was up 4.4 per cent, increase in the quarter profits among 406 companies already having reported.

[illegible][illegible]

0.50c.	July.	161.1-5.0c.	Oct.	
0.50c.	Dec.	160.0-1.0c.	March.	traded
0.50c.	May.	all.	CROSSED.	July
99c.	nominal.		MARCH.	
95.0-100.5c.	July.	97.0c.		
95.0-100.5c.	Dec.	95.0-102.0c.		MI
95.0-103.0c.	May.	all.		51
CHICAGO SOYBEANS.	Closing	OU		16
range	50.5 to 51.0			7.8
near.	market finished	90.40		16
higher to 50.40	lower.	SOYA-		16
beans	March.	479-81c.		16
495-500c.	Aug.			16
507c.	Nov.	513c.		16
521c.	May.	527c.	SOYBEAN	16

[illegible]



**Phone 01-422 3488**

**§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.**

1. The first step is to identify the problem or goal. This involves understanding the current situation and what needs to be achieved.



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TUTTON LANE, POTTERS BAR,  
HERTFORDSHIRE.

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Labour Relations Secretariat  
use, 52-55 Mortimer Street, London W1N 8AN

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**TUESDAY—Legal Appointments**

**WEDNESDAY—La Crème de la Crème**

**THURSDAY—Non-Secretarial**

**FRIDAY—£5,000-plus Appointments**

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archaeological and historical background of sites, monu-

ments and buildings ranging from the Neolithic period to the

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## COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR OF

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required by Assistant Managing Director of major subsidiary of National Brewery Group, who is responsible, senior staff, for Finance and Administration. Interesting and varied responsibility for someone with at least 5 years' experience of working for a senior manager.

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